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Original Poetry.

THE POET'S GRAVE.

WRITTEN FOR THE UNITED STATES SATURDAY POST.

'Twas in a sunny forest-nook,
With flowers and moss o'ergrown:
Where a night was heard over the bees' low hum,
Or wild wind's liquid tone.
They had the gentle bird to rest,
When life's wild dream was o'er,—
When the lyre he touched with magic power,
Gave forth its notes no more.

They laid him there when sunset's beam
Yet lingered on the hill;
But the heart that leaped at that bright hour,
In death's long sleep was still!
Sadly they heaped the mossy mound
Above his fair young form;
Forever closed his glancing eye,
And cold his breast so warm.

The elm's long boughs droop o'er the turf,
Like mourners weeping by;
And there in Spring, the violet first
Looks up with mild, blue eye.
And when the forest in the garb
Of summer, proudly wave,
A thousand low, sweet melodies,
Float mournful round his grave.

A holy calm breathes o'er the spot,—
The trees dark shadows fling,
Save when, thro' twining boughs, quick gleams
The wild bird's dashing wing:
There, when the sunset's glow decays,
Bright forms with sunny hair
Glide slowly thro' the voiceless aisles,
Then fade in twilight air.

Original Novel.

THE SOUTHERN WHIG;
A Romance of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

WRITTEN FOR THE UNITED STATES SATURDAY POST, BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE OLD LOYALIST," "LEAVES FROM A LAWYER'S PORT FOLIO," &c. &c.

CHAPTER XI.

"They saw their injured country's woe;
The flaming town, the wasted field;
Then rush'd to meet the insulting foe;
They took the spoil—but left the shield."
Philip Freneau.

Winter had passed away; spring had come and died with its flowers; summer had yellowed the harvest fields and departed; and new autumn, with its golden purity, its sunny skies, and all its glories were at hand. Months had passed since the events recorded in our last chapter. And with the change of time came change of scene.

Yorktown was invested. Cornwallis, after his vain boast that he would drive Lafayette from Virginia, had found himself no match for his younger opponents, but had been compelled to retire upon his present position, and surrender all hopes of carrying out the designs he had conceived, after the capture of Charlestown, of overrunning the southern States, so that, even in the event of a peace, the latter should not be included in the new republic. The army, at one time, had been in imminent peril, but nearly certain of success, and the hopes of the friends of freedom had sunk in consequence; but that Providence who rules over the destinies of nations had determined otherwise. Simultaneous with the disconcertion of the plans of Cornwallis, the battle of Eutaw Springs had been gained by Greene, and the preservering Carolinians were driving their invaders, step by step, from their soil. Charleston still remained in the hands of the enemy, but he was rapidly losing his hold in the upper country. The prospect brightened.

Early in August Washington had given up his intentions on New York, chiefly on account of the unwillingness of Count de Grasse to venture into the bay with his fleet, and, turning his attention southward, had, by a rapid march, left the Hudson, crossed the Delaware, reached the head of Elk, and set down before Yorktown with the allied armies, the fleet of the French admiral blockading the place from the sea. The siege had already progressed. A second parallel had been opened. Breaches had been made. It was determined to assault the two redoubts which were now the chief obstacles to the assailants. The storming of one had been confided to a detachment commanded by Colonel Hamilton, while the other was to be attacked by a body of picked infantry from the French allies.

Among the forlorn hope of Hamilton two men were remarkable. One was still in the prime of youth, but an air of deep dejection was visible on his face, as if already he had tasted the bitter draught of sorrow. The other seemed his follower, and in his careless, easy air the reader might recognize an old acquaintance, Eph. His companion was Somers. The latter had used some influence to obtain permission to serve as a volunteer on the storming party, and the former, on learning this resolution, had determined on following his friend and master.

Somers had not returned to the southern army. Various circumstances had produced this; but perhaps the most prominent was his unwillingness to revisit a section of the country where he would be likely to meet or even hear of Eveline. Now that his love was hopeless, he felt that his peace of mind required that he should be removed from the influence of every association that might remind him of her; for, where one deeply but hopelessly loves, the only cure is to separate him forever from all mention of the loved one's name. Somers had been employed on various important services; had acted as a bearer of despatches to General Lafayette; and had striven, by constant action and ever changing scenes to drive Eveline from his thoughts. But, alas! he had not been successful. We may conquer a love conceived and disappointed in boyhood; but the passion of the mature man becomes a part of his being, and often causes only with his life.

During this period Somers had never heard *from* Eveline. Avoiding all inquiry after her, it was scarcely probable that he could hear of her; but once he had been present at a dinner table when an officer from Carolina had mentioned her name incidentally, in connection with the rumor that she was about to be wedded to a gentleman named Manvers, her cousin, he believed.

"He is a neutral," said the officer; "but suspected of favoring the tories, and there are some dark things connected with the sale of the Trevor estates to this gentleman; and the general impression is that fraud has been exercised in the case, for when Charleston was taken, and South Carolina overrun, it began to be the general talk that Mr. Trevor was to resume his late property, and that indeed the sale was only a ruse. The affair has since been hushed up, but it is not forgotten in the proper quarters. However, he is, they say, to marry the daughter, and, from all I can learn, she is an angel."

How these words stung Somers, opening afresh the wound that he had fondly hoped had begun to heal. For days and weeks he endured again his old agonies. In vain he sought in excitement for alleviation; no scene however striking could wholly drive from him the remembrance of what he had lost. Such impressions were seemingly he knew; but the heart is no reasoner; and love rules the affections, not the intellect. At length the siege of Yorktown began, and in the progress of that mighty event he found some consolation, because the interest it awakened in him directed his thoughts in a measure from his disappointment. Whenever a service of peculiar danger was to be performed, he was foremost to volunteer for it; and when the galling fire of the two redoubts rendered it necessary that they should be stormed, he solicited and obtained permission to serve in the forlorn hope. For his whole soul was now engrossed with the desire of a glorious death.

Every preparation for the assault having been made, the troops left their stations and moved silently forward. The moon shone clear on high, throwing a hazy light over the prospect. To the right lay the shipping, half seen across the water; while in front appeared the entrenchments and town of York. A profound stillness reigned with the party of assailants, until they were within a proper distance of the redoubt. Suddenly a rocket shot up on the left, announcing that the French were prepared to attack; and immediately the men dashed forward with fixed bayonets. A few rapid strides brought them to the abbatis and palisades, for whose removal by the sappers they were too impatious to wait, but clambered over them, and rushed on the foe. A short and desperate conflict ensued. The enemy disputed every inch of ground, but, though the assailants had been ordered to use only the bayonets, they still gained ground, despite the fierce resistance of the British. At length, however, the forces left in charge of the redoubt began to give way. At this crisis an elderly officer stepped to their head, and endeavored to rally them. A dozen bayonets were instantly directed against his breast, and he was on the point of falling a victim to his bravery and loyalty, when Somers, who saw that the officer's efforts had been in vain, and that the enemy were dishearten beyond the probability of further resistance, struck up the bayonets from his breast, exclaiming.

"The day is won, and the redoubt ours. Let us not disgrace ourselves by butchery. Sir," and he turned urbanely to the British officer, "you must see that fortune has gone against you, and, if you will surrender me your sword, I will see that you are protected."

The officer silently resigned his blade, for he was now aware that further resistance was useless; but though he said nothing, he turned, as he was passed to the rear, and gave Somers a look of expressive gratitude. In that look there was something that thrilled his heart, yet why he knew not. Had he seen that face before?

It was some hours before our hero was relieved from the duties that devolved on him after the redoubt had been carried, but when he found himself at leisure, his thoughts naturally turned to the officer he had made a prisoner. Directing his steps to the quarter where the captain had been removed, with the intention of offering to share his own quarters with him, if he should accept the offer of a parole, he found the stranger reading a letter which apparently he had carried about his person. His face was flushed as if with some strong feeling, which expression had not wholly died away, when he rose to greet Somers. The purpose of our hero was soon explained, and his offer courteously accepted.

"But we have not yet been presented to each other," said the officer, as he put his arm within that of his younger acquaintance, "I am Major Trevor."

"Of South Carolina," said Somers starting. "the father of Eveline!"

Major Trevor, in his turn, seemed astonished.

"Do you not remember me?" said our hero, adding, "I am a son of your old friend Mr. Somers."

The warmth with which the Major grasped his young friend's hand showed that old memories had not departed from him, and, for a moment, flung a gleam of hope across the heart of Somers.

CHAPTER XII.

"We meet again."

The siege was now pushed with vigor, and the fate of Cornwallis was no longer doubtful. A capitulation was proposed on his part; the commissioners met at Moore's tavern; and it was announced to the world that a second English army had surrendered to the Americans.

During the days that elapsed before the surrender of the royal troops, the duties of Somers afforded him little opportunity of conferring with Major Trevor. The few hours they spent together were employed in conversation on the recollections of the civil war, on which it would have been impossible for them to agree. There was another subject on which they were silent. Somers made no inquiries about Eveline, for, feeling that the theme was one on which he dare not trust himself, he resolved, from the first, never even to mention her name. Nor did her father allude to her, except rarely, and then only with a passing remark. It was evident that he knew nothing of the meeting of Eveline and his host at her aunt's during the ensuing winter.

The slight intercourse between Somers and Major Trevor, however, was sufficient to convince each that something preyed on the other's mind. Each forbore to ask questions; but our hero was satisfied that the anxiety of Major Trevor had some relation to the letter he had been reading on the night after his capture. And little did the royalist imagine the true cause that weighed down his young host's spirits.

It was a proud day for the Allies when, agreeably to the terms of the capitulation, the British troops marched out from Yorktown to the field where they were to deposit their arms; and thousands of patriotic hearts beat high at the prospect, which now opened, of a speedy termination of the war. The ceremonies of that day are matter of history, and have been commemorated by painters and poets as well as chroniclers. The dignified bearing of Washington, and the delicacy evinced by all his officers toward the fallen earl and his followers, have ever received the praise of the annalist. From these matters of public notoriety we pass to the events of our more humble story.

It was the day after the capitulation, when Somers having been sent on the road to Williamsburg with a despatch, was returning to camp, when he met a carriage which had broken down, almost at the instant that he was passing it. Hastily dismounting, he hurried to assist the occupant from it, but the instant that the door was opened, he started back at sight of Eveline Trevor. Recovering himself, however, he gave her his hand, and aided her in alighting. She evinced almost as much embarrassment as himself, and troubled perceptibly as she leaned on his arm; for there was a house at a short distance, and thither Somers had mechanically proposed that they should walk. The way was passed in silence, except once when Eveline ventured to ask if her father was well, for, though she had heard of the capitulation, she was without any direct intelligence from her parent. This silence arose on Somers' part, from many causes. From what he had heard, he had no doubts that Eveline was the wife of her cousin, and the explanation of his conduct towards Manvers, on their last meeting, which otherwise he would have hastened to give, he was now too proud to offer. Besides he experienced an embarrassment in his present position of which an hour before, he would have thought himself incapable. Could it be that the mere touch of Eveline's hand upon his arm had power there to affect him? He felt that he had done wisely in avoiding all mention of her name to her parent, and that hereafter his only safety would lie in avoiding her society. With these feelings he experienced no little relief when they reached the house, and, remarking that he would now return to the carriage and see if he could not hasten its repair by his presence, he was about to depart, when Eveline, laid her hands again on his arm, saying.

"Will you delay a moment, Mr. Somers! I have much to say to you, which I should have said ere this. In justice to both of us I ought not let you depart without the explanation I am about to make."

He once bowed and remained, his hat, however, still in his hand. We will not say he was not cool one to hear what Eveline had to say; for his heart throbbed faster in his bosom, nor could he wholly prevent the evidences of his emotion appearing in his face.

"When we last met," said Eveline, "it was under peculiar circumstances; and I believe I spoke warmly—too warmly. We parted in anger, at least not in kindness. And I was the cause of it. Will you forgive me for this?" and she frankly extended her hand. The words and gesture were irresistable; for, as we have before said, no one could emulate the winning frankness of Eveline. Somers was subdued. His pride deserted him; a gush of fondness swept across his heart; and in that moment he felt as if Eveline could lay no task on him which he would not gladly have performed. What a mastery over us has love!

"Forgive you, oh! how willingly. But I acted, in that matter, deliberately, and I will own that your words pained me. 'Let that pass, however. I might justify myself fully in your eyes perhaps; but I will not. May God bless you," he continued, in deep emotion, "and make your present husband worthy of you. For your sake I wipe off all that he has done against me."

These words were spoken rapidly and almost inconherently; indeed Somers was scarcely aware of their import, but, hurried on by an uncontrollable impulse, had given utterance to them without thought. Eveline crimsoned to her very brow, and again stepped Somers as he was about rushing from the room.

"Stay, Mr. Somers, stay. Your words imply that you think—me—married. It is not so. Nor can I ever be the wife of the person to whom you allude."

The astonishment of Somers can be imagined better than it can be described. He was speechless for a space, during which he gazed in undisguised bewilderment at Eveline. He found words at length.

"Not married to Mr. Manvers—nor ever can be!" he said, as if unconsciously, while his whole face became irradiated.

"Nor ever can be," repeated Eveline more firmly, though the tide of crimson blood suffused her whole countenance. "Whatever may have been the impressions of others, arising from a report which it seems had wide circulation, a union with my cousin was never contemplated by myself." How Somers' heart leapt at these words! Eveline continued—"Circumstances, it is due to you to say, have lately come to my knowledge, which would have prevented all thoughts of such a marriage. In a word, I have learnt how I misrepresented you on the morning of our last interview—and that you had just cause for the indignation which you entertained against Mr. Manvers."

"Blame you for those words," said Somers. Eveline blushed again, and deeper than before, at his ardor. She hastily continued.

"I felt it due to you to acknowledge how I had wronged you. But," and her voice hesitated, "I have one favor to ask of you—do not seek revenge on my cousin. He has deeply injured both my father and myself—now I dare not trust myself to relate—and if we are willing to leave his punishment to Providence, surely you will do the same."

Somers would have agreed to anything in that moment; he, therefore, gave the required promise. How vast the change which a short half hour had worked in his feelings! The gloom of despondency was gone, and hope once more rose in his bosom. Perhaps it would have been hurried into a declaration of his sentiments, had not one of Eveline's servants now appeared at the door and announced that the coach had been repaired, the injury having proved slighter than was at first supposed.

CHAPTER XIII.

"Last scene of all
That ends this strange eventful story."
Shakspeare.

The meeting of Eveline and her father was one of deep emotion; for they had been parted more than a year, during which they had only occasionally heard from each other. It was marked by an even greater display of emotion on the father's part than on that of Eveline, for Major Trevor was overcome by the thought that his daughter would have fallen a victim to the arts of a villain, if he had not been for her generosity in spurning at her disregard of his expressed wishes, which were almost commands.

We can find no better opportunity for unravelling the mystery which perplexed Somers than the present; and we will do it in the words of Major Trevor to our hero, as he told the story on the morning following Eveline's arrival. The interview between Manvers and Miss Trevor is already known to our readers: this, therefore, we shall omit.

"My unworthy nephew," said the narrator, "returning from the hunt pretended that the party had been attacked by a band of whig refugees, and that he had with difficulty made good his escape; and as this tale was plausibly narrated, and there was no one to contradict it, Eveline and her aunt were forced at length to believe it. It gained confirmation from the absence of both you and your servant; and here Mr. Manvers suggested a reason for that absence, by hinting that you had instigated the attack, and, finding it unsuccessful and dreading an exposure if you returned to Stanston Hall, had concluded to depart with your allies. It was long before either Eveline or her aunt could think so basely of you, but so adroitly and apparently so unwillingly did Mr. Manvers suggest his suspicions that at length their doubts began to give way. Your rencontre with my nephew in the park, and the color given to that transaction by him induced Eveline, for the time, to believe all that her cousin had insinuated against you, though afterwards, when she came to compare your past conduct with this one hasty act, her doubts of the truth of the tale returned in all their force. It was not until a few weeks since, however, that she learnt the baseness of Mr. Manvers.

"The idea of a union between Eveline and my nephew had long been a darling notion with me; for until latterly I have placed the utmost confidence in my sister's son. Still I was unwilling to force Eveline into a union of which she disapproved, the more because I trusted time would induce her to look more favorably on her cousin's suit. He, however, was not disposed to wait; but determined to win her by any, even the foulest means. You know how he inveigled me into a transfer of my estates, a step which I bitterly repent. You know also the false representations he made to Eveline. After his first refusal he did not despair; but again solicited her hand. This time he brought a forged letter, purporting to be from me, commanding her to become his wife. Eveline was now in the deepest perplexity and anguish of mind. She had never yet disobeyed me; and, as no suspicion of the genuineness of my letter crossed her mind, she knew not what to do, being equally averse to accept Major Manvers and to refuse obedience to my commands. The madness of my nephew in forging a document which must, sooner or later, be proved to be false, is inscrutable, unless he trusted to the chances of war, or to my death by fouler means, for my removal from life before a discovery should take place.

"Fortunately, at this crisis, a paper was brought to Eveline which unmasked the villain. The document was a letter, found months before on the dead body of Manvers' servant, containing a written promise from the master of a certain sum of money, provided the bearer should succeed in aiding him to obtain the hand of Eveline. This paper was accompanied by a note, in Manvers's handwriting, addressed to the very leader who had captured Somers, and suggesting to him that enterprise. These papers hinted at the prior proceedings of Manvers in his crafty plot, and by following the clue this afforded, we have arrived at a full knowledge of his base designs. The man who brought the papers to Eveline had been prevented for months, by his duties in the field, from delivering the document at Stanston Hall and, aware of their importance, he was unwilling to trust them to other hands.

"This knowledge determined Eveline at once. She still did not suspect the forgery of the letter; but under the circumstances she felt justified in disobeying it. She revealed all to her aunt, and Manvers was dismissed from the Hall. Immediate enquiries were secretly set on foot to discover the extent of my nephew's villainy, and the result was the complete discovery of his plans. Eveline now determined to join me and put herself under my personal protection; and availing herself of an escort that just then presented, she arrived at Williamsburg, whence she set forth for the camp. Prior to this, however, she wrote me a full account of his villainy. You may have seen me perusing the letter."

Eveline never appeared more beautiful than when she came down that evening, after having devoted most of the day as well as the preceding night to recover from the fatigues of her journey. There was a conscious embarrassment in her manner, at meeting Somers, which assured him that he did not love in vain. He seized the first moment when they were alone to declare his sentiments; and when she owned he was not indifferent to her, he felt that his cup of bliss was full. In the conversation that ensued, the blushing girl confessed that he had won her heart at Stanston Hall, though she herself, unused to love, was ignorant that the sentiments she entertained for him were other than those of friendship, until his absence, and the pain she experienced at believing him unworthy, revealed to her the true state of her heart. And it was the consciousness of this, and the fear that he had learned to despise her, which made her hesitate so long, when they met, to acknowledge the injustice she had done him.

Major Trevor pressed Somers' hand affectionately, when the wishes of the latter were made known to him, and said,

"God bless you, my dear boy. Most willingly do I confide Eveline to your hands. We are of different political sentiments, but we are still members of the great human family; and, though I shall die, as I have lived, in the faith of my fathers, I will not pretend to infallibility. This unnatural war is now nearly at a close, and the side you espoused is triumphant. Also! the result has left me a poor man, and I regret only that I have no dower to give with my child."

"Spare your regrets, dear sir," said Somers, "for I have enough for all. No more, if you love me, on that subject."

The wedding of Eveline and Somers was not long deferred, and therefore'th they were supremely happy. A few words on the other characters, and our story will be closed.

Manvers met a deserved fate the year after the peace, being shot by the father of a young woman, in the lower walks of life, whom he had seduced. The avenger escaped to the Indies. The Trevor estates now reverted to Eveline's father as the next heir; and through Somers' influence he was enabled to retain them.

Eph continued nominally with his master after the peace, though his wandering disposition found a voyage to the West Indies, necessary at least twice a year, until old age confined him to Somers' plantation.

From the Monthlies.

FROM GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE, FOR FEBRUARY.

A LETTER TO DICKENS.

A friend of ours connected with the dead letter office, sends us the following epistle to "CHARLES DICKENS, *Esquire.*" As the author, who loves somewhat to vent, and may not have shown the law in the case, failed to prepay the inland postage, it was not forwarded by the steamer; and as, for his doubtless reasons, he omits of late to send us his "notes" that the theatre's sister To make saints than the church, since its morals are purer;

And its plain that you'd rather the exquisite Fanny
Should train up your younglings, than "Il Pentiani."
But this giving no *data*—you are not an archbishop—
Yet I own I dislike such opinions to fish up;
And as to advice, it is really a trial,
Yet your age and (mine) tell will take no denial:
It must be for the future; what's done can't be undone,
Though I wish you'd been safe in the portions of London
As the "notes" have accomplished the main point—the question—

I scarce dare whisper a caution—*be rather*
Yet truth, which I've praised, prompts this humble suggestion—
Since you're powers, in one walk, that no mortal will question,
Better let well alone! husband closer your resources;
Make no cooking attempts; try no enhancement courses;
Fall back on your conquests; set under your laurels;
Don't be greedy of money; don't meddle with morals;
But let alone temperance and Hoosiers and honor,
And stick to your cockneys, of if genus omne:
The tavern, the play-house, the prison, the circus,
Yet Puggins at Ramsgate, the boys at the "mark lane,"
And while you have Sam and sweet Nelly to rally by,
When accused of these "notes," I would just "prove an alibi."

But my paper is out ere my tale is half finished;
I'll write you again when the ear is diminished.
And hoping we'll soon have the pleasure of hearing,
Remain your devoted AMINADAB PEERING.

* See the reply of old Weller, "Pickwick Papers"—"It's a rum part of a thing, Sammy, to go a hankering after any body's property."

FROM THE LADY'S BOOK, FOR FEBRUARY.

EMMA WESTALL.

BY MISS MARY DAVENANT.

"Who is that lady?" asked Mr. Harford of his partner, as a graceful girl moved forward in the dance, at a brilliant party at Mrs. G.'s.

"Do you mean the lady in white, with a diamond *frontiere?*" said Miss Carlisle. "Oh, that is Emma Westall."

"I had not noticed the *frontiere*, but the bright eyes beneath it," said the gentleman, smiling; "but can it be possible that she is the shy little school-girl, that was Emma Westall when I went abroad? It makes me feel quite old to think it."

"You gentlemen appear to think time stands still with us at home, while you are wandering in Europe; but we girls do grow up, although you are not looking at us, and——"

"She is certainly very beautiful," said the gentleman, apparently too much lost in his own reminiscences to be aware of the *gaucherie* of his interruption. Miss Carlisle was a distinguished belle, and was therefore but little pleased with this open acknowledgment of the charms of a rival. She had, however, too much tact to allow this to appear, and only observed that "Miss Westall looked unusually well to-night."

"I should think that with those eyes and with that lovely complexion, she could never look otherwise," he answered.

"Oh, of course not," she replied. "I know Miss Westall very well, and I think her a sweet girl, very pretty, very accomplished, very blue."

"Blue?" he exclaimed, "it is impossible. She is too young."

"Indeed, she is not, I can assure you. She is for ever with her aunt, Miss Selwyn, a noted blue, who is doing her best to make Emma just like herself."

"I remember Miss Selwyn, perfectly," said Mr. Harford, "and have heard her highly spoken of, but did not know she was a learned lady."

"But she is very learned, indeed, and talks about all uninteligible things, and reads all kinds of uninteligible books, in unknown tongues," said Miss Carlisle, laughing.

"She must be a very formidable person," said the gentleman. "You make me afraid to encounter her."

"Oh, to her justice, I must say she can make herself very agreeable sometimes, even to ignorant people like myself. But when her learned seek is on, and she has any of her chosen spirits about her, she is positively awful. I was at her house one evening, at a little party, and do not think I was ever so tired in my life. There was a French savant, and a German philosopher, and I don't know how many American literati, and they talked so learnedly that my poor head ached with the effort to take in the long words to which I could not attach a single idea. But Emma was in her element, and said she enjoyed it greatly."

"A singular taste," said Mr. Harford. "I will, however, trouble you to introduce me, as I fear she has forgotten me."

The introduction was effected, and followed by one from Emma to her mother, who, after the usual fashion of American mammas, was sitting with a row of other chaperons, looking tired to death, and as if she had neither part nor lot in the evening's amusement beyond that of ascertaining by an occasional glance, that her daughter was engaged with eligible partners. She received Mr. Harford with much graciousness, and she remembered him perfectly and was gratified by the renewal of their former acquaintance, a pleasure fully reciprocated by the gentleman, who bowed his acknowledgments, and endeavored to make himself as agreeable as possible for the rest of the evening.

Emma Westall was the daughter of a wealthy merchant, whose family had long occupied a prominent position in society. Emma had been carefully educated, and the rich native soil of her mind had amply repaid the culture that had been bestowed upon it. She was beautiful, intelligent and accomplished, and entered society with all the eclat usually attendant on the favorites of nature and of fortune. Her mother, a worldly-minded woman, loved her daughter sincerely, but was little calculated to enter into the refinement of a character like Emma's; besides, she had other children, who, being younger, required, she thought, more of her attention. She contented herself with giving her daughter the best masters, because such were the fashion, and left her character to be formed by circumstances. Her father was too much occupied by business to interfere much in domestic concerns, but furnished his wife with ample means for carrying out her own plans, both in the arrangement of her own dress and the education of her daughters. His sons he placed at college, at a distance, and the eldest was expected to graduate at the next annual commencement. Fortunately for Emma, her aunt, Miss Selwyn, a woman of great discrimination, was her constant companion, and had made an early discovery of the inexpability of Mrs. Westall to train a mind of extreme sensibility, and being both by nature and education peculiarly fitted for the task herself, had so judiciously exercised her influence, that neither mother nor daughter was aware of the extent to which it was exerted. In consequence of it, Emma, during her childhood, remained in blissful ignorance of the thorough worldliness of her mother's character, and it was not until her mind had matured, that she became fully aware of the painful truth. I say *fully* aware, for it is impossible to suppose that no perception of the kind had before darkened the sunshine of her love towards her parent, but she chased it from her as unfaithful and sinful, and still continued to adorn her mother's mind with many graces which were but the reflection of her own, imaged in the pure fountain of her affections.

Mr. Harford had recently returned from Europe, after an absence of some years, and it was at one of the earliest parties of the season that he first saw Emma since her childhood. Her beauty and the polish of her manners, matured as they were by two years' intercourse with general society, made their full impression in all the advantages of her evening costume. The progress of the acquaintance so happily commenced by Mr. Westall watched with Argus eyes, soon made the discovery that it would be Emma's own fault if she did not in due course of time become Mrs. Harford, and he at the head of the elegant establishment to which the gentleman's large fortune would entitle him. In imagination she had already bought the trousseau, celebrated the marriage, and sent the happy pair to Europe, where they might spend a year and then return with the most recherche furniture they could procure in Paris. Could any thing be more delightful! One thing only gave her uneasiness, and this was the apparent indifference of her daughter to the conquest she had made, which she thought carried too far, might spoil the whole prospect. She therefore determined to sound her on the subject, and give her a little advice as to the manner she was to adopt in future.

One morning, as Emma and her mother were sitting together, Mrs. Westall led the way to the subject by remarking upon the beauty of some flowers which were in a vase on their work-table.

"And so fragrant, too," added Emma, "they almost make me fancy I am in the garden at dear delightful Brookfields, on a bright summer morning. How I wish it was summer again!"

"A great deal may happen between now and summer," said her mother, significantly.

"True," answered Emma, "there may be clouds as well as sunshine in the future. You are right to remind me of it, mamma."

"Nay, Emma, I had no such idea. On the contrary, I was thinking that if those flowers could speak, they might perhaps whisper a little tale that would make next summer the happiest of your life. That blush is a tell-tale, Emma. Now, if you would only blush as consciously sometimes when the donor is near you, your father and I might soon see our child as happy as she deserves to be."

"I am happy, mamma. I desire no change."

"No change!" said her mother. "Do you not wish to marry, Emma?"

"Not unless I marry a person I could love, and I shall never love Mr. Harford," said Emma, firmly.

"You amuse me, Emma, beyond all power of expression. Pray tell me why you shall not. Have you ever tried?"

"Try! to love!" exclaimed Emma. "Who ever heard of such a thing?"

"Everybody," said her mother; "at least every woman of my acquaintance. You appear to forget, Emma, that a woman cannot go through the world, and choose for herself, but must take such as are offered to her. And such an offer as this! Why, if you were to wait a lifetime, you might never have such another! What earthly objection can you have? I insist upon knowing."

"I cannot reverence him, and the Bible says the wife must see that she reverence her husband. He is a mere man of the world, governed by expediency in all he says and does—is selfish, frivolous, and narrow-minded, in short, he has no great qualities."

"Great nonsense," said her mother losing all patience. "Mere romantic notions, which every girl under twenty indulges in, and sees the folly of when she is older. Fortunately for you, Emma, you have parents who are wiser than yourself. Your father and I desire this match exceedingly, and it is your duty to try and conform to our wishes. This young man loves you, every action shows it, and he is only waiting for a little encouragement to declare himself. If you persist in this coldness, you will bring upon yourself our serious displeasure, and will moreover have the mortification of seeing that artful Julia Carlisle win him away from you and make him wretched for life, with her horrid temper. I will hear no more, Emma," observing she was about to speak; "remember, obedience is the first duty of a child."

Poor Emma withdrew from the apartment with a heavy heart, shocked by her mother's rebukes, and almost persuaded she was acting sinfully in thus opposing her will. The first impulse was to go to her aunt and confide her troubles to her, but it was snowing hard, and she dared not venture out, so she took the usual satisfaction of young ladies in distress, a hearty cry. Her mother soon after came into the room, and after kissing her affectionately, told her that she had repented to her father the unkindness of their conversation, that he thought her a very silly girl who did not know what she was about, and that all he asked of her was to take a few weeks to consider before she took any decided step, treating the gentleman, meanwhile, with kindness. This Emma promised she would try to do, and peace was once more restored to the family.

And how was the lover affected by Emma's coldness? As is often the case, the doubtfulness of success only increased his desire for it. Mr. Harford was all Emma had described him—a spoiled child of fortune—cold, selfish, and worldly-minded, though eminently handsome, well-bred, and well thought of by the world. Emma's beauty and accomplishments had first attracted his regard, and her gentleness and sweetness convinced him she would make a yielding, submissive wife. These endowments would, however, have been nothing to him, had she been less favored by fashion and by fortune, two deities, at whose shrine Mr. Harford was a devoutest worshipper. As it was, her coldness added a pleasing excitement to the point of conscience not to speak to her at all on a matter in which she felt her own views were at variance with those of her parents, and that as Emma had not entered upon the subject to her, she had no difficulty in keeping her opinions to herself until her sister had this effect upon them both. Mrs. Westall then requested she would still continue to occupy a neutral ground, which she readily promised to do, "unless," added she, "I find Emma needs my advice and sympathy, when it must of right be here, and if I see her really unhappy I must solicit her confidence even though she does not ask for mine."

In the mean time Emma was trying to fulfil the promise she had made to her father, and determined to make an honest effort to discover if there was not some latent spark of greatness under the cold conventional polish which was so repulsive to the warmth of her own nature. Mr. Harford professed a fondness for the fine arts, but Emma felt that in poetry, the smoothness of the verse—in painting, the finish of the coloring—in music, the harmony of the tone, were all he could appreciate. The eye, the ear, the mere mechanical part of each, could feed upon the inner sanctuary he could not enter, and when she would speak their revelations to her own soul, would smile supercilliously, and call it "charming enthusiasm." Who has not felt the spirit shrink to its innermost depths after such contact as this; "he is of the earth—earthy," thought Emma, and she felt there was a great gulf between them.

* * * * * *

"Upon what are you thinking so intensely?" said Miss Selwyn to her niece, as they were sitting one evening by the quiet fireside of her small but tastefully furnished parlor. Both ladies had been reading, but Emma's book had for some time been lying negligently in her lap, and she was gazing upon the fire with an earnestness that had attracted the attention of Miss Selwyn. Emma blushed, as she turned her face towards her aunt, and pointed to a passage in the book she had been reading. "I was thinking," she said, "how much my own experience confirmed the truth of this observation."

Miss Selwyn took the book and read aloud, "It is possible that our repugnance to cold and hard minds in high places may be occasioned by instinctive apprehensions that such beings, even when their conduct is estimable, act mechanically or by calculation, and that it is impossible that any true sympathy can exist between us and them."

"You are thinking, I suppose, an individual application of the remark, for no general one would have thrown you into the brown study in which you have been indulging for some time past. Shall I guess to whom it refers?"

"Do you not think it may be generally applied?" answered Emma, evasively.

"To all 'cold and hard minds,' undoubtedly," said Miss Selwyn, "but as it is not often they ask for more than the cold sympathy of refined and elevated natures, it is easy to grant them that small gift, and reserve the true feeling for such only as are able to repaire it."

"But if it seems to be a duty, aunt?" said Emma.

"That is quite a different consideration," answered her aunt. "If we are by the appointment of Providence placed among those to whom the inner sanctuary of our hearts is a sealed book—parents, brothers, and sisters, for instance—it is a misfortune, doubtless, but here the call of duty is imperative, and from duty must proceed all those offerings of affection which have a much more lovely but perhaps less holy source than those which are the result of sympathy. But it is not of this that I was thinking when she made the remark, nor yet when applying it. Confess, Emma, is my friend Mr. Harford that was occupying your mind's eye just before you read it?"

"It was, indeed," said Emma, with a sad voice, "and I cannot tell how this miserable business is to end. Each day increases my repugnance to complying with my parents' wishes, for each day's intercourse convinces me that there is a wide gulf between congeniality between us, without which I never can be happy."

"And yet Mr. Harford is handsome, rich, well born, well bred, well informed. What more do you ask?"

"I ask feeling, soul, high and holy aspirations after all that is good and beautiful and glorious in this life and in the next," answered Emma with enthusiasm. "A spirit before which my own could bow—to whom I could trust its guidance—to whom obedience would be happiness. One who would foster all that is elevated in my nature, instead of crushing by his own worldliness the endeavors of my soul to look beyond the world. Oh, my dear aunt, you who have been this ministering spirit to me, who have led me by precept and example to cherish these feelings as my highest, holiest treasure,—you cannot join with my family in promoting this marriage."

"No, my beloved child, I cannot," said Miss Selwyn, as she tenderly embraced her niece, who had laid her burning face in her bosom, "I cannot aid in doing what my heart tells me would be wrong—deep wrong—to a loving nature. You, my Emma, are formed to live in your affections, and it must be a noble being that can call them forth in all their power. I have not said one word, intentionally in this matter, for my heart told me you would discover what your parents have not, that his character is not suited to your own. But you must beware, Emma, of taking one so little worldly wise as I am into your counsels, for you are all that my romantic ideas have done for me, left me a solitary old maid, when I might have been for differently situated. Have you counted the cost thus far? Should you not realize this ideal, have you courage to live unloved?"

"You are not unloved," cried Emma; "who is loved more fondly than you by all on whom you bestow affection? Do not talk of being unloved!"

"Yet Providence has wisely ordered it that woman's highest happiness is to be found in the exercise of her highest duties, and it is as wife and mother that the pure and lovely attributes of her nature shine in their fullest perfection. That seeking of the heart for something without itself, which can satisfy its yearning for an entire sympathy, proves that we are imperfect beings without it, and marriage, the appointment of God himself. But, tell me, Emma, have you ever yet seen any one towards whom you felt you could yield this reverence of spirit you were just now speaking of, or is it merely an ideal being you have described?"

"I have seen those I think greatly superior to Mr. Harford," answered Emma.

"That is not the answer to my question, Emma; I shall suspect you, if you are not perfectly frank with me."

"Do not ask me, aunt," said Emma, with tears; "until within this week past I believe my affections to be entirely free, but the utter repugnance I feel to the thought of married life with him would convince me that if he had chosen me, I might have been as happy as I now am miserable."

"And you have given your heart, unsought, Emma. This is indeed unlooked for."

"Do not reproach me, aunt," said Emma, passionately, "I am humbled enough in my own conscience that I have bestowed my affections upon one who perhaps thinks not of me; but I did not know till lately, it was more than admiration of his character, and the love I might naturally feel for such a cousin."

"Yet you must know, Emma, that even if Thornton sought your hand, your parents would never consent to your marrying him. Poor, and struggling for his daily bread, could they ever allow their child, so tenderly nurtured, to partake of his poverty? No, Emma, this is madness. I can now understand your reluctance to speak to me on the subject of Mr. Harford's addresses. You knew I would discover what you wished concealed."

"I know and feel all the misery of my present condition. I feel that I have acted unworthily, in suffering this affair with Mr. Harford to proceed so far, but I did it ignorantly, not knowing the state of my own heart."

"And what led to the discovery?"

"That letter from Frederic, telling us how ill Mr. Thornton had been. The agony I felt on hearing of his danger, opened my eyes to the truth, and I have been miserable ever since. I went directly to my father and told him I could never marry Mr. Harford, and he seemed greatly troubled, and said it was a great grief to him, that I wished not yield to his wishes in this matter. He has been in low spirits lately, and it seems to me wicked to distress him more. I am sure I don't know what to do."

Miss Selwyn gently soothed her niece, and sent her home somewhat comforted, but after she had left her, remained in great perplexity herself. This discovery of the state of Emma's heart, gave her infinite pain, and she now wondered at her own blindness, that she had not before perceived it.

No two characters could form a stronger contrast than the object on whom Emma had bestowed her affections and the one to whom her parents wished them directed. Thornton Ellwood was the orphan son of a cousin of Mr. Westall's and had been educated under the impression that he would inherit a large estate in one of the southern states. His father was a native of Philadelphia, but his mother was one of those gentle spiritualized beings, who too often find in this world no worthy resting place, and was therefore soon removed to a more congenial abode. After her death, which occasioned her husband's return to his old, his father married a fashionable belle, who was too much occupied with herself to take much interest in the del

United States SATURDAY POST.

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OUR WEEKLY CHAT.

Having found abundance of material of all descriptions, literary, news and miscellaneous for this day's paper, our own corner is of course limited; and we shall make little use to-day of the privilege of being egotistical, which "chat" always supposes; but we leave the dullest reader who commences at the beginning, with very little preface.

On our outside to-day is completed the novel entitled "The Southern White," and on our last page is commenced a deeply interesting story from Graham's Magazine. We need not bespeak the readers attention to it. In our next paper will be given the interesting letters by Dr. Bethune, as also, the last of the letters upon the French Revolution. We regret that some of our contemporaries in their fear of giving proper credit, publish these letters as "by Dr. Lardner" without acknowledging the source from whence they get them. In doing this they add a "no-such-thing" to their unenlightenly jealousy, as Dr. Lardner never sees the letters, unless he reads the Post.

The weather which last week was exceedingly mild and springlike, opened on Monday to dabble us a snow in her tears; and sleetings and rains were alternated with wind and spats of hail, snow and rain. There is, however, this consolation,—that winter and the session of Congress will soon be over. Six weeks is longer than the storms of either can last; though, parenthetic we may have some equally pitiless and squalls of wind out of the word storm.

OUR SUCCESS.

Notwithstanding the hard times in every section of the United States we have been rapidly gaining subscribers for the last four months. No winter season has been more promising, and we feel assured that intelligence by means of family newspapers is becoming daily more widely spread. As far as we can learn, increase has attended the exertions of every contemporary. It will scarcely be credited when we state that we have added over two thousand subscribers to our list in the last sixty days, and that "the city is still they come," by fifties and eighties in the the scale of each day. In the Magazines issued from this establishment there has been a corresponding success—Graham has already done a larger business than in any former year by over four thousand subscribers, and the Lady's World has added to its list 1000 more subscribers in the last three months than during the whole year preceding. All this argues well for the intellect of the country, and if people do not make fortunes as fast as formerly, they seem disposed to lose nothing in intelligence. At the first glance it would seem, that publishers are doing better than any other class, but whoever looks at the improvements in periodicals of all sorts for the last four years, will see that the increase of subscription finds a vent in enlarged expenditures and liberality, forced out by the very laws of trade and competition. It is utterly idle for a man to expect in this age to go to sleep over his business and realize a fortune—if he attempts it, he will wake and find his business fled to other hands. There is perhaps no department of trade, that requires more unremitting watchfulness at the present time than printing. Competition has acted healthfully in this, that while it benefits the public, it compels upon every man the necessity of strict attention to his business matters.

R. W. EMERSON.

This gentleman commenced on Monday evening in this city, the delivery of a course of lectures upon New England. Two or three of them yet remain to be given. At the commencement of the first lecture, Mr. Emerson intimated that the theme chosen was one intended more as a book upon which to hang the thoughts he had to utter, than as a subject to which he should strictly confine himself. Of this remark, which we have paraphrased rather than reported, we judge the full tenor to be: That from the history and character of New England, he should generalize over the whole ground, past, present, and future, over all worlds, material and immaterial, all kingdoms real and ideal, all men, external and internal, all fact assumed and recorded, all opinion theoretical and experimental,—in fine, over the universe generally in all stages of its progress; not forgetting a sort of Professor Espy management of the moral, mental, or mystic atmosphere, with which transcendentalists clothe things positive, and notions supposed. How he will succeed in his mental meteorology remains to be seen; and whether he can allay in the minds of his hearers the mists of doubt, and the driving storms of fancy to which he subjects them, and in which he professes to find a plan and a system of order, remains to be seen.

It is not to be denied that he is eloquent. So might a landsman be if, having discarded compass, and refused the aid of the experience of others, and the demonstrations of admitted and time established truth, he put himself adrift in mid ocean, to study the stars without the trammels of "old conservative astronomy." He might look for the "new" in such a "transition state," till his head ached, and although his description of his position, and his utterance of his thoughts, would be painfully eloquent, or forcifically terrible, all the "new" he should discover would not be of such practical benefit to the world, as a seventy years old old fisherman's "determination of his faculties to externals." (Mr. Emerson's definition of common sense,) applied to the taking of cod and haddock.

And although we should much rather trust our safety to the "conservative" seamanship of the old fisherman aforesaid, though his dull eyes were tamely fixed on his compass and his heavy hands on his tiller, than to the theory of the transcendentalist adrift, with his eloquent eyes wildly rolling on the stars which he could not chart,—still we should like much to hear the latter's rhapsody, provided our feet were well moored on a safe bottom. So we shall certainly hear all that Mr. E. has to say, and we must honestly admit that he utters much truth, that his errors are suggestive of thought, if not of always safe thought; and that his wit is pleasant if his exaggeration is monstrous, and his hyperbole does outpistol Ancient Pistol.

DEATH OF T. W. WHITE.

We are truly pained to record the death of Thos. W. White, editor and publisher of the Southern Literary Messenger. In September last, while on a visit to New York he was attacked by paralysis. For two months he was unable to undertake a return to Richmond, and during that period received the unremitting attentions of a large circle of friends, to whom his simplicity and genuine kindness of character had endeared him. When he took passage for Richmond he had so far recovered that he was sanguine in the hope of renewed health and usefulness. His friends, however, foreboded the worst, and the event has justified their fears.

His character is thus summed by the editor of the Tribune:—"Mr. White, while making no pretensions to authorship, has done very much for the cause of American, and especially Southern, Literature, to which he has devoted himself for some years with singleness of purpose and energy of character. Generous in disposition, ardent in affection, and gentlemanly in heart, he was widely and tenderly beloved; and his death must cause many aching hearts, even out of the circle of his deeply bereaved family. We trust the Messenger will pass into the hands of some worthy successor."

The papers in his own town and section of country are eloquent in their expressions of grief, at an event which is no common bereavement, but the loss of a dear friend and valued citizen.

AFFGHAN AIR.

The English papers report that the captured prisoners were all in the highest health. The fresh air and exercise of the mountains appearing to have benefitted them more than the want of the luxuries of India injured them. The total number, including natives, which have been recovered, will amount to upwards of 2000. Of these, 120 are Europeans, 267 Sepoys found at Gumnee, and 1200 sick and wounded, who were lagging about Cabul. The continuity of the number of the skeletons discovered in the pass, leads to the belief that the annihilation of the army was so complete that was for a long time universally supposed. In each case much of the unfortunate which has been visited upon the Affghans will be found to have been unmerited. We can never be sure of the truth until we hear both sides—and not always then.

THE STEAMER UNION.

We have frequently written notices of this vessel, as her machinery is of a new and experimental character; and much depends upon the result. She recently went from the Washington Navy Yard to Norfolk, under command of Lieut. Hunter, the inventor of the new plan upon which she is constructed. We are pleased to see by the annexed extract from a letter written on board of her to the editors of the National Intelligencer, that promising results have attended the experiment on the back as regards speed and efficiency:

The United States steam Union, under the command of Lieut. Hunter, slipped her moorings about 3 o'clock this morning. (from the Washington Navy Yard,) and against a cold field stream, passed off down the river at the rate of 10 miles per hour. Time from Navy Yard to Alexandria, forty minutes. We consider this a most satisfactory result as her trip to Norfolk is most especially for the purpose of ordering her propellers, which, against the opinion of all the world (Lieut. H., and officers excepted,) we found too large for a high velocity.

There was considerably very uneasiness in the opinions of this world, so, without any outward show of her innovative power, she silently glided away from the wharf, having a wake so placid that an egg shell might have ridden upon it in safety—a fact which removes all the objections heretofore made to steam navigation on canals; and we can offer to the sympathizing friends of the firemen and engineers the assurance that the thermometer stands no higher than 98 degrees Fahrenheit in any part of the engine-room.

You could hardly realize that the vessel is in motion or the engine at work. So free are we from all the disagreeable jarring and rattling of ordinary steamers, that any old lady accustomed to the sound of her coffee-mill might cross the Atlantic with us, without endangerment of her nerves.

HIGHLY INDECOROUS.

At a State Temperance Convention in New Jersey, Gov. Pennington, of that State being present, several oblique hints to sign the pledge were given him. Of these he took no notice. At length one of the Indian present rose and called upon him by name to come and sign the pledge. The Governor, thus appealed to, could no longer sit quiet, he accordingly smiled, bowed, and replied to the suggestion in a neat address, in which he declared his willingness to aid so far as possible the cause of temperance; but at the same time stated, that he never did things without due reflection, and should therefore decline the invitation, in all due respect for those present. A bowl immediately upon the Governor's taking his seat, a hissing followed on the part of a large number present. Now the lady above mentioned may be exceedingly pretty—but we are sure upon this evidence that she is not uniformly lady like. The calling upon a man, obliquely or directly, whether he be a private individual or a public character, in the manner above related is as unwarrantable as it is impolite; and we honor Gov. Pennington so highly for refusing to be browbeaten, and declining to exhibit subservience to this sort of dictation, as we pity the persons who followed the first insult paid him, by a chorus of gross insult, in their own natural language.

THE WESTERN WATERS.

Some idea of the importance of the removal of obstructions from the navigable channels of the Western waters, will be gathered from the annexed paragraphs, which we cut from the Baltimore American:

"The extent of Western inland navigation, including the Mississippi, Missouri, the Ohio rivers and their tributaries, is estimated at twelve thousand miles. When it is considered through what immense regions these rivers flow—how fertile, how abundant in resources—and that vast portions are yet but sparsely settled, and but partially productive, in view of the ease they may be made to yield—the number of tonnage already employed in those waters, though a large aggregate in itself, will but constitute the beginning of that mighty mass one day destined to move along these interior streams freighted with the rich products of industry.

"The annual losses on the Western waters from obstructions to navigation are so great, as to affect very seriously the charges for insurance and the rates of freight. It has been apprehended that insurance offices would decline to take risks. When it was known that the obstructions thus dangerous, may be removed, and that the expense of the work would be a small in comparison with the annual losses, does it not become an important matter for the consideration and the efficient action of the Government?"

RAPID COMMUNICATION.

The remark has often been made that the iron rails with which this country is traversed, will prove among the strongest bonds of union which are in future time to cement the confederacy. Sectional prejudices are either forgotten or removed by frequent communication; and the most distant sections of the country become neighbors. A few years ago a journey from Boston to Cincinnati was the work of a month, and even now the distance as at present travelled makes the two cities strangers to each other. But, when the Sandusky rail-road is finished, Cincinnati will be within three days of Boston. From Cincinnati to the Lake, the distance may be accomplished easily in sixteen hours; a magnificent steam packet will then receive the passengers and transport them to Buffalo in twenty hours, and from Buffalo to Boston they will go by rail-road, say in thirty-four hours; the whole distance from Cincinnati to Boston requiring only seventy hours. Does this prediction startle any one? In a few years it will pass into history, and be regarded as a very common place fact.

METEOROLOGY.

In connexion with the storms upon the Lakes, the Hudson Observer has some excellent hints upon Meteorology. Ten hundred lives were lost in the storm of November. The Observer thinks that the gale could have been anticipated, and says:—"All the operations of nature are subject to fixed laws. Storms form no exception to this rule. These laws may be learned by diligent study. The science of meteorology is new, and but few general principles are yet discovered. Imperfect, however, as the science is, it was competent to predict the present gale. On the morning of the 15th, the barometer at this place was high, with a westerly breeze. About noon the wind veered to southeast, and the barometer began to fall. The wind continued from the same quarter, and the barometer fell steadily, till Thursday, 7 A. M., when it stood at 28, 116. Such a fall of the barometer under an easterly wind, has never been observed at this place without being speedily succeeded by a violent gale from the west."

"HEART BROKEN."

The weatherwise in New England are of opinion that, as we have had no winter worth talking about, we are to have none this season. The New England Farmer quotes the opinion of a very intelligent weather watcher, that, usually about the last of February, or early in March, something in the atmosphere gives to light, just before the rising and just after the setting of the sun, a peculiar tint—saffron colored—or what painters would call a warm tint. This appearance is soon followed by a thaw, which is the breaking up of winter. This softened light is "the season of spring." Such a light was observed this winter on the 25th of December, and the following days. On December 26, this peculiar appearance led the gentleman above referred to, to say that "the winter is broken," although we had then, and for several days following, no other sign of the nice days thaw that has since occurred. We had again on Saturday and also on Sunday last, the same peculiar, spring-promising light.

FIRE IN BROOKLYN.

A great fire occurred in Brooklyn, N. J., on Sunday last. It originated in the basement of a small building on the west side of Main street, between Fulton and James, and in a short time the stores of W. P. Bonnet & Son, shoe dealers; P. Taylor, & Co. Jewellers; C. B. Brower's hosiery and linen store; Thomas Watson, shoemaker; Mr. Carter, bookseller; C. J. Blagrove, apothecary; Mr. Blocker, dry goods; Mrs. Godfrey, fancy goods; Mrs. Hempstead, confectionary; Mrs. Bunker and Van Cleve, dry goods; extending on Main street from James to Fulton, and down Fulton to the four story brick store of Mr. Stratton, were wrapped in flames; the great height of Mr. S.'s building stopped it from proceeding further.

SOCRATES, PLATO AND PYTHAGORAS.

In noticing the last Lecture of the Rev. Mr. Bethune, before the Athenian Institute, we have no hesitation in pronouncing it a monument of human skill, argument, profound research, just reflection and intellectual power. The moral opinions of Socrates, Plato and Pythagoras, are ably and lucidly developed; with notices of the lives of those ancient giants of thought and study—while the God-like attributes of Christianity are pointed to, as high and triumphant above them all. A long course of reading would be required by the previously uninformed, to gain the knowledge which is poured out in a full stream in that single lecture, a copious sketch of which will be found in another part of this day's Post.

SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

The tenth Annual Report of the "Female Seamen's Friend Society of Philadelphia" has been published, and presents an account of the operations and prosperity of the institution, which while it gladdens the heart of the philanthropist, demonstrates the necessity of its continued assistance to a good cause.

THE GLIMAX.

A story told in the Cincinnati Gem certainly puts the climax on the science and practice of impudence, in all the glory, never did any thing which could bear comparison with it. It would seem that a man in Cincinnati, about six months since hired a house of a wealthy landlord, a Mr. Longworth. A few days ago Mr. L., called on his tenant who had not paid one cent of rent, and asked him to leave the house as there were other poor people with whom he ought to take his rents. The fellow probably calculated the cost of moving and the amount he would have to pay in advance before he could get another place, which in all amounted to twelve dollars. This saw Mr. Longworth paid without hesitation, and the man started in quest of a house up town—met Mr. Longworth's agent—engaged for a better house than the one he left and moved into it without paying anything in advance.

AN AMERICAN SLAVER.

The Governor of the Colony of Liberia, says the Journal of Commerce, in a despatch addressed to the Executive Committee of the American Colonization Society of the 5th of June last, states that on his arrival at Bassa Cove, which place he visited in February, 1843, he found anchored there a fast sailing schooner belonging to New York. The Captain refused to pay any port charges, in defiance of the authorities, who had no means of forcing a compliance with their regulations. The supercargo of the vessel was a Spaniard. The Governor told him he knew him to be a slaver, and ordered him to leave the settlement. The vessel came out under way and stood up the coast, but in two or three days returned, and in twelve hours took in a cargo of 250 slaves and put to sea.

HYDROPHOBIA.

An accidental case for hydrophobia has been stumbled upon in Europe. At Udine, in Friuli, a poor man lying under the frightful torments of hydrophobia was cured with some draughts of vinegar, given him by mistake instead of another potion. A physician at Padua got intelligence of this event at Udine, and tried the same remedy upon a patient at the hospital, administered to him a pound of vinegar in the morning, another at noon, and a third at sunset, and the man was speedily and perfectly cured. Should this prove well authenticated, and an actual specific, instead of an accidental relief, great will be the good. And, in a scientific point of view, it may be the means of defining, somewhat, the true character of the disease.

THE PALENQUE RUINS.

The Rev. Dr. Hawkes, who is lecturing in New York on the ruins of Central America, is endeavoring to prove that the temples belonging to Pagans, and the images, or idols, upon them, correspond with the mythology of Asia, so that he is thus connecting by the closest ties, the ancient inhabitants of America and of Asia,—the proof being the idols of both hands. We hope that the learned lecturer may be induced to elaborate and correct his performance for the press. Thousands who cannot hear, would be delighted to read them; and even those who hear the lecturer would like calmly to analyze their argument, and weigh their conclusions.

BEAUTIES OF WAR.

The losses of the Chinese, since the commencement of hostile operations against them by the British, are estimated at from fifteen to twenty thousand men, and about eighteen hundred pieces of cannon, with an immense quantity of other materials of war, and the almost total annihilation of their navy. To these evils in the grass, are to be added all the horrors in detail, which as they make no part of the "glory" of war, are ever forgotten in despatches: Women outraged, children killed by their parents to be saved from shame, property wantonly destroyed, and all the evils of anarchy let loose upon hower stricken cities.

WESTERN PENITENTIARY.

The report of the Inspectors of the Western Penitentiary of Pennsylvania, states that there are now confined 163 persons, 4 of whom are females—being a decrease of only 2 during the year. The profits arising from the labor of the prisoners are stated at $4,449 66. The Warden reports that of the 66 prisoners received during the year, 10 are temperate, 4 moderate drinkers, and 54 intemperate. There were five deaths in the prison during the past year—all of consumption. The report speaks very highly of our Penitentiary System, and of the efficacy of solitary confinement.

NOBLE CATTLE.

Quite a sensation was made in Chestnut street on Tuesday, by the promenade of two superb oxen—superb, we mean as "beef creatures," though they were somewhat too plethoric for labor. They are the property of Messrs. Rosencan and Tippenhorse, of this city, who intend to kill them shortly, and offer the meat for sale, at Nos. 9 and 10, Jersey Market, between Front and Second. One of these noble animals weighed 3930 lbs., and the other about 3900 lbs. They were bred by E. Tompkins, Esq., near Salem, N. J.

MIDSHIPMEN'S DUEL.

A letter received in this city, dated Genoa, November 30th, states that Midshipmen Beers and Cock, both of Philadelphia, recently fought a duel at twelve paces with pistols, and Beers received Cock's ball in his leg. The wound will not prove fatal, and the patient was doing well. The quarrel originated during the reception on board the Columbus, of the Queen of Sardinia—both the young gentlemen being attached to that ship. The parties have been suspended by the Commodore, and it is said will be sent home for trial.

CAUTION.

We have within a short time received several counterfeit fives of the Bank of Auburn, from the State of Illinois—a circumstance which would appear to indicate that distributors of counterfeits upon Eastern money are busy at the West. Among all the spurious money that we have seen, these imitations of the Auburn notes are the most perfect; and our friends at the West cannot look out too sharp for them. We get also an occasional ten on the Leicester, (Mass.) Bank, but the latter are by no means so well executed as the former.

IMPOSITION.

Some one, recently copied a stanza from a poem by Charles Sprague, and sent it to this paper as original. As original it was published. This sort of imposition is of a description the most contemptible, whatever may be the motive of the actor in it. If it be to make the editor appear ridiculous, that end even is not gained. It is no discredit to a man's taste that he knows a bit of poetry is good without knowing who the author was, and that he therefore publishes it without the endorsement of a celebrated poet's name.

BENGAL COTTON.

The hot climate and dry winds of India prove, it is said, insuperable obstacles to the culture of the finer descriptions of American cotton; and American cotton growers have, therefore, little to fear from that quarter for some years to come. In late English papers the experiments which have been undertaken with some parade of preparation, and with more parade of words, are spoken of as complete failures.

REV. T. H. STOCKTON.

We are pleased to see it announced that on Tuesday evening, February 6th, Rev. T. H. Stockton will commence a course of lectures on the "Moral Government of the World, with intimations of its Philosophy and Poetry." These lectures cannot but prove highly interesting, and will command the usual full audiences that wait upon the eloquent orator's addresses.

ON THEIR WAY.

One hundred Indians recently arrived at New Orleans from Florida, in the charge of Lieuts. Britton of the 7th, Johnson of the 8th, and Major Capers, Indian Agent. Among the Indians, are the celebrated Chiefs Tigertail and Octiarchees. There will be a precious lot of combustible material piled up West of the Mississippi after a while.

MEXICO.

We have news from Mexico that a band of Texans have penetrated into the Mexican territory proper, taking one small border town after another, with apparently very little difficulty. The last intelligence represented that the Texians, having been hemmed in by a superior force, had gallantly fought their way out, and were on their retreat.

A NEW ARTIST.

We learn from the Boston Transcript, that Miss Quinne, a resident in the town of Beverly, Mass., has modelled some busts in clay, which give promise of great future excellence, if she prosecutes the art. Among her first attempts was a bust of Hon. Robert Rantoul, which is pronounced a wonderfully expressive likeness.

WISE.

The New York Common Councils have entered into a contract with a company, who are to keep the streets of that city cleaned for $64,500 per annum for five years. This job has hitherto cost the city an average of $110,000 per annum.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

The Army and Navy Chronicle, to which we are indebted for early and generally correct information relative to contemplated movements in both branches of the service, has the following paragraphs:

Active measures are in progress for the preparation of vessels, which are to be sent to cruising in places in contradiction to many rumors of our late squadrons. The principal dock-yards will soon be alive with the bustle of preparation.

Rear Commodore Stewart, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the new and beautiful sloop-of-war Saratoga is now ready for sea; her destination is the coast of Africa.

At Boston, the new brig Relampago is nearly ready, and the steam ship Hut will sail for the Pacific in the course of the present month. The frigate Constitution, launched last year, is to be fitted out, and the frigate Potomac is undergoing repairs.

At New York, the new frigate Savannah is in a state of forwardness; the sloop-of-war Vincennes is commissioned; the brig Somers is ready for service; and the brig Perquim is about to sail for the coast of Africa.

At Norfolk, the frigates Brandywine and Macedonian, the sloops-of-war Levant, Warren, and St. Louis, the store-ship Lexington, and the new brig Truxtun, will soon be, if they are not already, in a condition to receive their officers and crews.

It has been intimated that the Brandywine is bound to the East Indies. One or two sloops will also be required for that station, and one or two more for the Pacific.

There are four first class frigates on the stocks, viz., the Boston, at Portsmouth; the Sabine, at New York; the Raritan, at Philadelphia; and the St. Lawrence, at Norfolk; the two last ready for launching.

Of ships of the line, there are but nine, exclusive of the Wave and Fleet; having eleven to be built or purchased.

	Frigates.	Sloops.	Brigs or schooners.
Mediterranean,	3	3	3
Coast of Brazil,	3	3	3
Pacific Ocean,	1	4	4
East Indies,	1	3	3
Home Squadron,	1	4	4
Coast of Africa,	0	3	4
Whole number,	7	19	20

Of brigs or schooners, there are but nine, exclusive of the Wave and Fleet; having eleven to be built or purchased.

STATE TAX—PHILADELPHIA.

The following is a statement of the value of property assessed for State purposes, and the amount of State tax in the city and county of Philadelphia. The value of property is taken from the books of the Assessors for 1843, and the amount of the tax collected in the offices of the County Commissioners.

City.—Real estate, $59,504,737; horses and cows, $67,200; personal, $470,351; furniture, $1,062,393 50; carriages, $66,695; emoluments of office, $182,556; moneys at interest, $14,485,318; number of watches, 4015. Aggregate tax, $183,264 96.

Northern Liberties.—Real estate, $9,168,511; horses and cows, $82,527; personal, $139,784; furniture, $116,900; carriages, $9,045; emoluments of office, $8,100; moneys at interest, $1,248,649 10; number of watches, 680. Aggregate amount of tax, $24,856 11.

Spring Garden.—Real estate, $8,644,645; horses and cows, $15,610; personals, $61,940; furniture, $117,836; carriages, $6,555; emoluments of office, $36,725; moneys at interest, $739,437 68; number of watches, 451. Aggregate amount of tax, $22,199 00.

Kensington.—Real estate, $3,799,799; horses and cows, $14,025; personals, $41,670; furniture, $6,600; carriages, $2,330; emoluments of office, $4,180; moneys at interests, $77,828 45; number of watches, 96. Aggregate tax, $8,563 96.

Southwark.—Real estate, $5,830,914 56; horses and cows, $7,850; personals, $65,340; furniture, $81,265; carriages, 945; emoluments of office, $15,170; moneys at interest, $299,983 56; number of watches, 143. Aggregate tax, $13,734 30.

Moyamensing.—Real estate, $9,387,426; horses and cows, $7,850; personals, $17,132; furniture, $10,359; carriages, $490; emoluments of office, $21; moneys at interest, $60,648; number of watches, 68. Aggregate amount of tax, $5,194 98.

The several Townships:—Real estate, $12,958,090; horses and cows, $327,276; personals, $156,575; furniture, $99,649; carriages, $34,052; emoluments of office, $10,178; moneys at interest, $1,905,195 96; number of watches, 443. Aggregate tax, $36,589 45.

Aggregate Assessment in the city and county.—Real estate, $102,212,106 56; horses and cows, $583,018; personals, $970,567; furniture, $2,026,729 50; carriages, $120,202; emoluments of office, $250,523; moneys at interest, $18,736,196 63; whole number of watches, 5824; upon which the total amount of tax is $292,551 63.

POSTSCRIPT.

Foreign Intelligence.

ARRIVAL OF THE CALEDONIA.

NINETEEN DAYS LATER.

The Steamship Caledonia, Captain Lott, arrived at Boston on Wednesday morning at 7 o'clock, bringing Liverpool and London dates to the 6th. The Steamship was delayed by encountering boisterous gales, but came through in safety.

There appears to be no news from England of an important commercial or political character.

The total cotton sales of the year 1843, at Liverpool, are estimated at 1,417,450 bags, inclusive of 11,160 Sea Island, 3,290 stained, and 316,850 Upland, 565,570 New Orleans, and 228,560 Mobile and Alabama. The sales to the same period of 1841 were estimated at 1,274,940 bags. There were taken on speculation to 30th December, 1843, 253,520 bales, and in the year 1841, 165,300 bales. Prices are the same as reported by the steamer of the 4th December, though during the month the trade has much improved.

Of provisions, the Liverpool trade reports remark: The trade in American provisions being yet a new one, the retrospect of the past year affords no sure data on which to offer an opinion as to future prospects. Since the 2d ult., the demand for Beef and Pork has been very limited, and the quotations may be considered as nearly nominal. Some new States Beef in tierces was taken on arrival at a high figure. The Stock in hand at this date consists of 7,576 barrels Beef, and 6,512 barrels Pork.

Dry hams are inquired for. Wet are difficult to sell, and there is room for much improvement in the mode of curing this article. Fine cheese is in fair request, but the middling and low qualities are slow of sale. The stock in this article consists of 223 tons. Lard is in light stock, and the next arrivals will sell readily.

By the burning of a four story house in Prescott street, London, several persons lost their lives—probably one half of the tenants, twenty-five in number, perished.

Late in the month of December, Liverpool suffered from another destructive fire. A turpentine distillery, two large warehouses, full of goods, and some smaller buildings, were entirely consumed. It spread till the principal buildings included within that arena, no less than 3200 square yards in extent, were destroyed. The amount of loss is not stated—the property was insured to the amount of £50,000.

The events of the past month have been of a chequered, yet of an uninteresting character. The prospects of improvement in trade, although not brilliant, are nevertheless encouraging. In the manufacturing districts activity prevails, and it is confidently expected that the opening of the Chinese ports will, before long, afford the manufacturers full employment.

Parliament is summoned to meet on the 2d of February. Sir Robert Peel, it is expected, will introduce a salutary and wholesale alteration of the restrictions by which trade is fettered. With characteristic caution, he has carefully abstained from divulging a hint of his purpose or his plans. The opening of the session is most anxiously awaited.

The stoppage of the Yorkshire Agricultural and Commercial Bank, at York, was announced in the last week of December, and caused a great commotion in that city, at Leeds and elsewhere. There was very little chance of a resumption of payment, and the most serious consequences were apprehended. A meeting of the shareholders had been held, at which it was found that the whole capital of the bank, £211,000 was lost, and about $100,000 besides. The liabilities amounted to £170,000.

The Great Western Steamer, it is said, has been purchased by Mehemet Ali, who intends to convert her into a steam frigate.

The news from China is no later than we have already published. From the continent the intelligence is unimportant. In Spain, Barcelona has quietly surrendered to Espartero. In France new suspicions of revolutionary movements are entertained—of course.

The line of French mail steam-packets to cross the Atlantic, will, it is expected, commence running next June. The packets will be fourteen in number; they are built to carry forty guns each, and will belong to the French Government. The French port selected for the packet station is Cherbourg. Four of the steamers will run to and from New York, and the rest will convey mails and passengers to and from France and the West Indies, Brazils and the Gulf of Mexico. The fares for passengers will be considerably less than the charges of the English West India Mail Steam Packet Company. A vessel has already been despatched to make the necessary arrangements at the various stations and routes selected for the French packets.

Popular Lectures.

MERCANTILE LIBRARY.

The lecture on Friday evening, the 26th inst., before the Mercantile Library Company, was by Charles Ingersoll, Esq.; Subject, "A Day in Ancient Rome." The subject was one of the best of the season. Departing from the usual track pursued by lecturers, who too often only repeat what we have learned in school, or can find on every library table, he gave an animated and picturesque description of the habits, customs, present appearance, and general mode of life among the Romans. He described them as scrupulously neat in their persons, but extraordinarily dirty in their private houses. The kitchen had a hole in the roof for a chimney; then the smoke usually wandered off into the other rooms. A perfect equality existed among the citizens, and the Emperor and the poorest Roman met on the same footing at the baths. The slaves for extended in number the freemen, and to the former were confined nearly all the manual occupations. Even the practice of the fine arts was considered beneath the dignity of a Roman. Few citizens, who could afford it, were without a villa, for the love of country filled over a passion with them. Of the dress of the Romans a good idea may be obtained from the statues of their eminent men. They wore no hat, but used the tops to keep off the sun and rain. The life of the Roman began sometimes by a slight repast, though usually he ate nothing until noon. His morning was occupied in devotion to the gods, visiting his patron, or, if rich and powerful,—the almost sovereign terms in the last days of Rome—in holding a levee for his followers, who were called clients. He then visited the Forum, and other public places, where daily all the citizens assembled, for the Romans spent the chief portion of their time in the streets.

The Romans were at first a poor people, but gradually through their conquests became wealthy. In all physical exercises they were well instructed; and no men made better soldiers. Their inevitable courage, amounting even to obstinacy, saved the republic in some of its worst emergencies. This spirit of unyielding firmness they carried to such a height that when Hannibal, after crossing the Alps, and ravaging Italy to the gates of Rome, had pitched his camp before that city, the ground on which his army stood was sold in the beleaguered town at auction, and brought enormous prices—so confident was every citizen that the invader would yet be swamped from the soil. A Roman scorned the opinions of foreigners. To the sensitiveness evinced by the Americans he was a stranger. Another characteristic of the Romans was a custom among their citizens of having legacies to public men. Many grew rich thus by the bounty of others.

We incline to think, however, that Mr. Ingersoll was erroneous in one or two of his assertions. In describing Rome, as she was under the feet of the emperors, he said that no citizen followed an occupation, all being wealthy. Now, this is exaggerating the fact, for immense numbers of the poorer citizens were supported by the bounty of the state, while commerce was not altogether confined to the slaves. Nor had the old distinction between the Patricians and Plebeians wholly died away; for, although of the old noble families, scarcely thirty remained at the time of Augustus, yet new families had risen up of foreign as well as of native extraction—to the former of which belonged Cicero and we think the Scipios, while from the latter, Cassar, Pompey, and others sprung. Rome had become democratic by the elevation of the people to nearly equal political rights with the Patricians; but the constitution had undergone many changes during the struggle; and wealth, and family influence continued to the last to circumvent, in practice, the wishes of the people. Men who held office, and their descendants, especially if possessed of wealth, constituted in fact, during the last day of the republic, and at the beginning of the empire, the nobles of Rome. And the empire was only an exchange from the rule of an oligarchy to the rule of one man.

The lecturer, also, in speaking of the houses of the Romans, conveyed the impression that they were usually of two stories. Now, in the earlier times of the republic, there was universally but one floor. Afterwards, in some dominitie, a second story was added, where the eating room was placed, while the sleeping apartments still continued below. These remarks are spoken of in the apostolic writings, and in early christian histories, as the upper rooms where disciples were wont to meet. But the practice of piling story on story was confined to houses erected for the poorer and middling classes, who could not afford the extent of ground demanded for the mansion of a richer citizen. The aristocracy always adhered to the original plan of but one story; and a noble Roman's mansion, with its peristyle, atrium, garden, and portico was doubtless a magnificent affair. Most of the houses, however, until the time of Augustus were built of brick; and usually promoted, on the outside—except at the entrance, or where shops were fixed on the front—nothing but a dead wall.

Mr. Ingersoll's lecture was written in an easy, almost conversational style; and was enlivened with wit. He made one or two excellent hits at some of the provincial customs of Philadelphia, and we think his audience would do well to profit by his remarks.

The Somers' Mutiny.

The investigations of the Court of Inquiry, in relation to the Somers's Mutiny are closed; and at the time we write this, the decision of the court as to the propriety of further proceedings is not known. But, whether the Court of Inquiry recommend that a Court Martial shall be held, or not, such a court will be convened. It is understood, indeed, that the President of the United States has already ordered a Court Martial, at the request of Commander Mackenzie; and that Commodore Biddle will be at the head of the court, and Richard Rush, Esq., Judge Advocate.

Further endeavors have been made in New York for the bringing of the case before a civil tribunal. On Thursday evening of last week, the counsel for the widow of Samuel Cromwell appeared before the Hon. Samuel R. Betts, with her affidavit, alleging that the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry had closed, and charging the murder of her husband and others, to have been committed by the accused, as she believes, from admissions and statements made by the Court of Inquiry, and moved the Judge for a warrant to arrest them on the charge. Judge B. decided against the application for various reasons, but chiefly because his whole time was engrossed by other important matters, and he says, "it was, no doubt, a motive of weight with Congress, in conferring power on so many officers to take preliminary examinations on criminal charges, to leave the Judges of the United States Courts free to devote themselves to other duties exclusively slotted to them.

The concluding testimony before the Court of Inquiry was chiefly important as showing that the great number of blows struck on board of the North Carolina, were, a great proportion of them, such as are not usually reported on board vessels of war, having been inflicted with the "colt," a small rope, which the boatswain carries in his hat. At times of mutiny, when insubordination, on the part of any sailor, to personal cleanliness appears, a few blows of this "colt" are usually given over the clothes by way of admonition. Another important allegation of Lieut. Gansevoort, and other witnesses who were recalled, was the positive contradiction of Warner's statement that his deposition before the officers was altered after he had made it and without his knowledge.

Capt. Gregory, an experienced Naval Officer, the Commander of the North Carolina, on board of which vessel the Court of Inquiry has been in session, has expressed an opinion, which will find many advocates. He says: "If I had been in command of the Somers, I should have made the attempt to bring home the mutineers, and think I might have succeeded; but I am perfectly persuaded that Mr. Mackenzie believed their execution was absolutely necessary for the safety of the brig; and so thinking, it was his duty to execute them. He stands therefore, in my judgment, justified in the course he pursued, although I should have acted differently." But as the matter is to receive immediate and final investigation, we decline all further publication in relation to it, with the following statement of Com. Mackenzie, which was permitted by the Court to be placed on its record:

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Although it has been determined by the Court that a written defence of my conduct, founded on an examination of the evidence, will not be considered, is unnecessary, and, under the circumstances, inadmissible, I trust that the Court will not refuse to receive from me a brief statement of the reasons that produced the conviction in my mind, on which I acted, that the execution of the ringleaders of the intended mutiny on board the Somers was necessary to the preservation of the vessel. It is true that these reasons may be collected from my report to the Secretary of the Navy, which has been read before the Court; but they are nowhere stated in connection, nor with that distinctness and brevity that are necessary to impress their force on the mind of others. My report to the Secretary was intended to be a full history of all the proceedings on board the Somers, for his information alone, and was far, very far, from being framed with any direct view to my own vindication.

I proceed, then, under the permission of the Court, to submit the following facts and considerations as the reasons that strongly determined my conduct. Here let me premise that I have participated in the investigation, and carefully weighed the evidence; though, I shall leave to the judgment of the Court.

First, I was influenced by my deep conviction of the reality of the plot disclosed by Mr. Spencer to Mr. Wales. Although I received the first communication with incredulity, yet when I reflected upon the earnest and solemn manner in which the disclosure was made, and the strong impression of the reality and importance of the danger made upon the mind of Mr. Wales himself, my doubts vanished, and my mind was filled with the most earnest solicitude to discover and adopt the proper measures for preventing the horrors with which we were threatened. I at once determined to adopt no measure but after mature deliberation, to shrink from none that the preservation of the lives of those entrusted to my care, the honor of my country and my sense of duty should demand. Whether the influence of this decision is not apparent in all my subsequent acts, I submit to the judgment of the Court. I believed then in the existence of a plot in which, by the declaration of Mr. Spencer, at least twenty of the crew were concerned. The nature of this plot, involving the murder of the officers and a large portion of the crew, and the commission of almost every crime, convinced me that those who had agreed to it were capable of carrying it into execution and incapable of keeping any secrecy. This opinion was further confirmed by my previous knowledge of the depraved character of the crew, and by the fact that many of them, although men in strength and size, were still boys in age, and consequently would be little likely to resist temptation, and more easily allured by the pleasures held out to them as accompanying the life of a pirate. Having stated the reasons which produced the conviction in my mind of the existence of the plot, it only remains for me to state those which induced me to change my original determination to bring the prisoners to the United States for trial, and to deem their immediate execution necessary.

I was influenced—First, by the insubordination of the crew, manifested after we left the coast of Africa, and very much increased after the arrest of the prisoners; their gloomy and angry looks, their secret conferences, broken off when an officer appeared; their increased reluctance in the performance of their duty; the actual disobedience of some; the attempt of several to communicate with the prisoners. All these circumstances convinced me that there was danger of a rescue, and that this scheme was in constant agitation.

Secondly, by the uncertainty under which we labored as to the extent of the mutiny, and the hostility and danger of attempting to ascertain

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ALANSON BILLINGS, of Nashville, Tenn., is duly authorized to obtain new subscribers to Graham's Magazine, United States Saturday Post, and Lady's World. Single copies may also be had at his store in Nashville.

Notices of New Works.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE, *February*, 1843.—We issue for February a *double number* of Graham's Magazine, with three *splendid steel* engravings. Two of them, "The Captives," and "The Signal," we may safely affirm, are finer than any that have appeared in the magazines, and equal to the choicest of the London Annual plates. We have a series of these beautiful plates, which we shall continue during the volume for 1843.

The literary matter of this number is of the highest order, from the pens of J. Fenimore Cooper, Professor Longfellow, Richard H. Dana, Dr. Reynell Coates, N. P. Willis, Frances S. Osgood, C. F. Hoffman, H. W. Herbert, J. R. Lowell, H. H. Weld, Park Benjamin, H. S. Tuckerman, etc., etc. The number contains eighty-four pages of reading matter, all original, many of the articles purchased at a high price, the cost of *literary matter alone* of the present number was over $500. We append the following notices of the work.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE, *for February.*—When we noticed "Graham" for January, we suspected that its splendid embellishments and admirable literary contents had been prepared to serve a purpose at the beginning of a new year and a new volume; but we were in error. The February number is not only superior in all respects to that for January, but it is altogether the finest specimen of a magazine ever printed in this country. Even "William Blackwood & Sons" might be proud to issue such a magnificent collection of articles in a single month. Cooper, Longfellow, Dana, Chevver, Colton and Maccar, all of whom write for Graham exclusively; and Willis, Story, Burleigh, Whitman, Coates, Herbert, Hoffman, and some dozen others, have articles in the present number. "Born to love Paint and Children," by Willis; "The Fire Doomed," by Coates; "The Autobiography," by Cooper; and "The Enchanted Gun," by Hoffman, are the best stories. "The Demurrer," by "A Committee," is a scathing reply to some gentleman of the superior genius of the Indians, God bless them! and the "Letter to Charles Dickens," in the Editor's Table, is decidedly rich. The engravings, entitled, "The Captives," and "The Lover's Signal," from the burins of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Smillie, of this city, are the best ever published in a magazine, and quite equal to the finest in the London Keepsakes.—*New York Herald.*

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE.—Mr. Graham treats the subscribers to the Magazine to a *double number*, for the month of February, and one of great excellence. There are twenty-five original articles, by such writers as Cooper, Longfellow, Dana, Willis, Hoffman, Herbert, Coates, Lowell, Weld, Colton, Tuckerman, Chevver, Benjamin, Maccar, and Osgood, who impart life and interest to the pages of this popular periodical. To correspond with the quantity and quality of its contents, three embellishments adorn the present number; one, "The Lover's Signal," is a highly finished engraving on steel, by Rawdon & Co., of a beautiful picture; "The Captives," by the same, is another of great delicacy and beauty. The other "Children Taken by Surprise," by Jackman, though not so fine an engraving, is a handsome picture. This number is quite a volume in size, containing eighty-four pages of reading, all of which is original. Mr. Graham deserves great credit for his efforts, and he certainly excels all competitors in every department of his Magazine.—*Public Ledger.*

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE.—The clerk strikes, and, "awaking with a start," we find we have whiled away two mortal hours of our precious day, which are ordinarily devoted, dear reader, most conscientiously to your amusement and edification, in the classic labyrinths of this delightful magazine. We must beg pardon for our negligence—that is certain; and we know no better apology than the enumeration of the beauties which thus have tempted us from our duty: and, besides "The Enchanted Gun," there is one poet Hoffman's very best stanza—quaint, eloquent, odd and fervent, by turns; "The Lord of the Manor," by Henry W. Herbert—excellent; a piece of poesie, "beautiful—wonderfully," by R. H. Dana; "The Host's Tale," a sprightly *bijou*, by C. J. Peterson; the second chapter of Cooper's "Autobiography of a Pocket-handkerchief"—better than the first; "The Dead George Campbell," a gem, by Longfellow; "The Moon," by that child of genius, Lowell; "The Lover's Signal," by the author of Henri Quatre; "The Fire Doomed," a splendid tale of Virginia, by Reynell Coates; and *the* thing of the month, "Born to love Paint and Children," by Willis—of course. There, reader—are not these sufficient excuse for our playing truant, for a season, even from AURORA's delightful servitude?

We simply wish to add that the February number of Graham is undoubtedly the best and most attractive magazine ever published in America.—*N. Y. Aurora.*

A TREATISE ON THE DISEASES OF THE EYE.—*By W. Lawrence, F. R. S., Surgeon Extraordinary to the Queen; Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital and Lecturer on Surgery at that Hospital; Surgeon to Bethlem and Bridewell Hospitals; and late Surgeon to the London Ophthalmic Infirmary. From the last London Edition, with numerous additions, and sixty-seven illustrations.* By ISAAC HAYS, M. D., *Surgeon to Wills Hospital; Physician to the Philadelphia Orphan Asylum, Member of the American Philosophical Society, &c., &c. &c. Philadelphia, Lea & Blanchard*, 1843.—1 vol. 8vo. pages 778.—Every one feels that sight is the most valuable of the senses; and it requires no argument to prove that, short of death, blindness is one of the greatest calamities that can befal human nature. Even to the rich, who can alleviate it by purchasing the aid and services of others, loss of sight is the greatest of misfortunes. "How much more severely must it be felt by the poor, by the middle and lower classes of society, that is, by the great majority of mankind; who, being rendered incapable of labor, and having their minds uncultivated, find their existence reduced to a dreary blank, dark, solitary and cheerless, burdensome to themselves and to those around them."

Among those who have devoted themselves to studying the means of averting each terrible consequence of disease of the eyes, Mr. Lawrence stands pre-eminent. The work before us has already received the seal of professional approbation, and is considered authoritative and classical in Europe. The last London edition, completely revised and enlarged by the author, appeared in 1841.

The necessity for reprinting this work in the United States will be obvious, when we remember how limited is the attention given to Diseases of the Eye in our Medical Schools. Ophthalmic medicine has not received in our country the attention bestowed upon it in Europe. By a few practitioners, it has been cultivated assiduously, but by the mass of the profession it has been wholly neglected. This must be attributed, in a great degree, to its not being taught in our Medical Colleges. In all of these, with a single exception, it forms a part of the general surgical course, of which some three or four lectures only are devoted to it. If we keep this fact in view, we may readily appreciate the value of a complete treatise on the Diseases of the Eye, written by such a man as Mr. Lawrence, and republished under the direction of the learned and accomplished Dr. Hays, who has devoted twenty years of his life to this subject. How many individuals in the country, in villages, and even in large cities have unnecessarily been deprived of sight through a want of knowledge of ophthalmic medicine in the mass of general practitioners. Whether a disease of the eye shall result in total blindness or in a restoration to sight must depend but too frequently on the skill of the physician; and as long as we feel, perhaps through no fault of his own, that he has received but very imperfect or very general information on the subject, we must treat our organs of vision when diseased, in his care with considerable misgiving.

But a new era has been marked by the appearance of "HAYWARD'S ON THE EYE, BY HAYS;" the author of knowing is here offered, and those members of the profession who wilfully refuse to embrace it, scarcely deserve the patronage of their neighborhood. When we consider how very few works, (and all of those of very limited extent,) have been published in the United States, we say safely say, no medical library of American printed books can be complete without this work; and we confess, we should place more confidence in the physician, whom we might have occasion to consult for any disease of the eye, were we assured he possessed a well thumbed copy of Hays's Lawrence; and perhaps we might be induced to take pains to ascertain the fact before trusting him.

The volume is full on all points, and contains all the facts, at present known, in relation to the subject: Dr. Hays has added copiously not only from his own stores of knowledge, but also from those of European and American writers of eminence.

Among the novelties in relation to diseases of the eyes, the operation for squinting is fully described; and it appears from the testimony of various authors that it is far from being invariably successful. Perhaps not more than one-half of those operated on in Europe have been very materially benefited; although while the operation was new and opinions submitted in crowds to the knife, every case was boasted as a perfect cure. The correctness of this statement will be at once assented to, "when it is considered, that such a mania has prevailed among some surgeons for operating, that they have seized upon every case, suitable or not, and that almost *everywhere, the greater number of cases have fallen under the knife of unprincipled operators, attracted to them by false statements of success widely circulated in the public papers, with the certificates of cures given to them by those whom they had duped.*"

The "getting up" of the volume is creditable to the publishers. The engravings are by Gilbert, and of course well executed. The type is of good size, and there is a copious index as well as table of contents, which makes the work one of easy reference.

THE ARTISTE: A MONTHLY LADY'S BOOK. *F. Quarre, 64 Reade street, New York.*—The January number of the new monthly Magazine has been before us for some days. It is embellished with an entirely new style of engravings, printed in various colors. Mr. Quarre, the publisher, is a gentleman of excellent taste and of great talent in his profession, and his engravings of lace patterns, colored lace borders, etc., are the neatest and handsomest that appear anywhere. He has, we believe, furnished all the patterns which have appeared in the various monthly works. The typography of the work is excellent. The fashion plates are got up with more than usual care and taste. The cover is certainly the prettiest design that we have seen, and altogether the work is such as to deserve and secure patronage.

ALISON'S HISTORY OF EUROPE.—*New York: Harper & Brothers.*—The fourth number of this series completes the first volume of the three, and the bookbinders in this city have already discovered that it is out, by the rush of subscribers to have the volume bound. It brings the history of Europe down to the appointment of Napoleon as First Consul; and is richly laden with notes which are quite as attractive as the text. It is beautifully printed. Perkins & Purves, Burgess & Zieber, and Geo. S. Appleton have the numbers for sale.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK, *for February*, comes out with four plates, and forty-eight pages. Among the plates we prefer "The Sketcher," a very pretty lady (barring her curls) elegantly engraved on steel by Ellis. The elopement is a good picture; but we cannot say this of the two children, lithographed and colored after Sir Thos. Lawrence. The fashion plate is well designed. Several of the stories are excellent; we have copied one of the best. Willis, De Forest, Elliot, Hale and others contribute to the number.

MESOPOTAMIA AND ASSYRIA—*By J. Baillie Fraser—Family Library, No. 157—New York: Harper & Brother—Philadelphia: Perkins & Purves.*—This history extends from the earliest ages of which we have any record, down to the present time, is succinctly narrated, and in many places eloquently written; and compares the theories of other writers with much apparent impartiality, and evident research. The volume is accompanied with a map and several engravings.

SERIALS.—From Messrs. Burgess & Zieber we have: Tom Burke, of Ours, (Lovers new story); Thirty French Revolution, No. 9; The Abbott, one of Scott's best; Henrietta Temple, by D'Israeli; Calderon the Courtier, by Bulwer; No. 3 of Wilson's American Revolution; The Somers Mutiny (Tribune report); all of which are furnished at low prices, and in good style.

THE AMERICAN IN EGYPT.—A cheap serial edition of this work, which has made so much noise in the world, is in progress of publication in this city, by Geo. S. Appleton. It is well got up, and copiously illustrated with engravings.

☞ Ure's Dictionary, published in monthly parts, five in number, is getting as wide a sale as in its first edition. G. S. Appleton is the Philadelphia publisher.

☞ Colon has sent us the concluding number of George, St. George Julian, the Prince. It is a cheap work at a dollar.

Political Intelligence.

INDIANA SUSPENDED DEBT.—The Wayne County Record contains an abstract of the report of M. G. Bright, State agent, on the suspended debt of Indiana, the substance of which is as follows: The debt is about four millions, and if care be taken, about half a million may be made out of the collaterals held by the State. The whole number of bonds issued for all purposes whatever, is 14,969, amounting to $12,522,-256, of which only $8,592,256 have been paid to the State. The balance of $4,000,000, is what is termed the suspended debt.

STAY LAW.—A bill has passed the Legislature of Illinois, which provides that all property offered for sale under execution, shall sell for two-thirds of its appraised value, and obliges the plaintiff to buy the property either one year from the date of this execution at two-thirds of its appraised value, or lose his lien or to other judgment creditors.

☞ The Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce says, that Mr. Spencer, the Secretary of War, is making preparations for an extensive official survey of the military posts on the western and other frontiers, during the recess of Congress.

☞ In Virginia no man can vote unless he is a freeholder or a householder, and in South Carolina, a Representative to the General Court must own a freehold of five hundred acres and ten negroes.

☞ Among the rumors from Washington is one that, upon the expiration of the present Congress an extra session of the new Congress is to be called. This rumor is spoken of quite confidently.

☞ Do Dry that the friends of Mr. Calhoun as President, or none of them, intend to put Mr. Buchanan's name on the same ticket as Vice. We shall have different tickets enough, at any rate.

☞ The Democratic State Convention of Kentucky have nominated Col. Richard M. Johnson for President and Gov. David R. Porter, of Pa. for Vice President.

☞ General Jessup is named by a Washington letter to the Spirit of the Times, as Vice President on the Tyler Ticket.

KENTUCKY.—The popular branch of the Legislature of Kentucky has voted, 50 to 43, not to pass any Relief or Stay Law.

LOUISIANA.—The people of this State have voted, 14,296 to 5020, to call a Convention to frame a new State Constitution.

☞ William H. Seward, Ex-Governor of New York, advertises that he has resumed the practice of the law.

☞ A meeting in favor of General Cass for the Presidency, is about to be called at Cincinnati.

Religious Intelligence.

☞ We learn that the Rev. D. T. Bedell, of Trinity Church, West Chester, has accepted the Rectorship of the Church of the Ascension, New York. This Church was vacated by the election of Dr. Eastburn, its Rector, to be Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the diocese of Massachusetts.

☞ The unhappy misunderstanding which has for some time past existed between the Catholic Bishop and Clergy of New Orleans, and the Warden of the St. Louis Cathedral, is at length terminated to the mutual satisfaction of all parties. The Cathedral is to be opened for divine service again.

☞ The members of the Methodist Church in Boston, have more than quadrupled in the last fifteen years—more than trebled within the last ten years—and more than doubled within the last five years.

Army & Navy.

☞ The U. S. ship Vincennes, is now lying at anchor off the Battery at New York, ready for a cruise, and she is only detained by the absence of one of her officers, who is now in attendance at the Court Martial in session at the Navy Yard, in this city. The command has been given to Captain Franklin Buchanan.

THE MARINE CORPS.—A bill has been reported by the Naval Committee of the U. S. Senate, augmenting the U. S. Marine corps, by an addition of five hundred privates, to be obtained by new enlistments. It provides, also, that the instruction of the Marine corps shall include that of Marine and field artillerists.

THE AFFAIR AT MONTEREY.—The Alexandria Gazette says—"We are informed that the reported recall of Com. Jones from the command of the Pacific Squadron, is not correct. It is not yet known what course the Mexican government may take or what course our government may pursue in the matter."

COMMANDER LATIMER.—We learn from the Army and Navy Chronicle that the President has remitted the unexpired term of the sentence of suspension upon Commander W. K. Latimer, of the Navy, and he is now "waiting orders"

☞ The Rev. C. S. Stewart, of the United States Navy, has received orders for the chaplaincy of the United States ship North Carolina, the flag ship of the New York station.

☞ Captain David Conner, has resigned the office of Chief of the Bureau of Construction, Equipment and Repair, in consequence of the impaired state of his health.

☞ The U. S. Revenue Cutter Van Buren, W. W. Polk, Esq. Commanding, arrived at Savannah, on the 10th instant from a cruise.

Congress News.

We announced last week the passage, by the House, of a bill to repeal the Bankrupt Law. To finally dispose of the matter, a motion to recommider the vote was made by Mr. Proffit. Pending this motion to recommider, Mr. Cushing made a speech in reply to remarks which had been made upon his course by gentlemen. He disputed the construction which has been made of some of his speeches, and said that the question with certain gentlemen is not what is for the good of the country, but what is for the good of the party. He denied that a majority of the people of the United States were in favor of a National Bank; and therefore the Whigs had no cause of disappointment because the President refused to sign a Bank charter. Mr. C. said that a party was an association of men banded together for political purposes; and when he saw the whole subject presented in the fact that these parties were in pursuit of power, and the election of their favorite for the Presidency, having for their object the National Bank on one side and the Sub-Treasury on the other—he refused to be crushed together with the Administration, between the upper and nether mill-stone—when fortune he would call them.

Mr. Cushing was followed by Mr. Fessenden and Mr. Garret Davis in reply, and at last Mr. Marshall obtained the floor. He spoke, at first, of the Bankrupt law, but speedily diverged upon the causes of the disaster, as Mr. Wise terms it, of the Whig party. Mr. Cushing, he said, had to day thrown new light upon the causes of this result. According to them it was the conflict of John Tyler and Daniel Webster, with Henry Clay. "The fixed constitutional fact," had been arrayed against the united partisan. It is thrown out that we, Congress, have neither principles nor measures, but Mr. Tyler has. That he will give his support to either branch of the Democratic party, for they are two—which will support him. Mr. M. said the principles advocated by this administration, and developed as we have here seen, was the very worst that ever was or could be sustained.

Mr. Marshall then proceeded to eulogize Daniel Webster as the Senator. He gave a character which has never been exceeded in eloquence by this truly eloquent speaker, and went to a length of eulogy which would have been felicous flattery in the mouth of most other men. His praise, however, came down only to the time when Mr. Webster entered the cabinet, and Mr. Marshall was preparing to close the sketch of Mr. Webster the Secretary of State, as an anti-climax, when, much to the chagrin of all parties in the House, who wished to hear the conclusion of such a commencement, Mr. Proffit brought the speaker down by withdrawing his motion for a recommitation. No one could renew it—and so the vote of the House to repeal the Bankrupt Law stands as given. The bill was sent the Senate, and on Friday referred, in that body to the Committee on the Judiciary, whose report had not transpired when this account was prepared.

In the Senate, the leading topic of interest has been the Oregon Question. Little was done with it but work except the passage of resolutions asking for certain documents in the War Department. On Monday two communications were received one in relation to the Oregon, and the other to the Caroline affair. The orders of the day were called, and, Mr. Morehead having the floor, the Oregon matter was taken up. He denied that the passage of the bill under consideration presented any just cause of offence to England. He said that the Government of Great Britain, through the Hudson Bay Company had taken practical possession of the territory by the erection of forts, &c.; and that the company chartered in the time of Charles the 2d for hunting purposes exclusively had directed its attention to purposes entirely different.

The Company was exclusively British in its character and its feeling. It possessed the minds of all agents of the Government. It influenced the Indians entirely against them. It pursued our traders, undersold them, drove them from the coast, and every thing save a violation of the treaty of 1818. The spirit of the treaty was violated over and over every civil day, and in the most palpable manner. The treaty, too, said that the occupation should be a joint possession. Its spirit was not so, for the reason that this Company, sustained and protected as it was by the British Government alone, refused all trade and communication.

Mr. Morehead went further, and contended that Great Britain had exercised her jurisdiction over the whole territory claimed by the Hudson's Bay Company. Joint possession with Great Britain was exclusive jurisdiction, and that Government had flagrantly violated the provisions of the treaty by the course she had pursued. Villages had been built and forts erected; laws had been issued, and jurisdiction claimed. In protecting the Hudson's Bay Company, Great Britain went beyond the original business of the Government. In Navigation, in Agriculture, in Commerce, she exercised jurisdiction.

It was time, Mr. Morehead thought, that the United States should wake up to her interest on this subject. He would not violate the spirit of the treaty, but he would follow, *pari passu*, with Great Britain in the occupancy of the territory. The country would not be settled without the occupancy of the territory by settlers to whom grants of land would be made. Mr. Winthrop, from the Committee of Commerce, made a report on the memorial of Benjamin Rich and others, of Boston, complaining of the seizure and imprisonment of four colored persons in their employ on board of their ships in Southern ports. The report concludes with resolutions declaring such seizure and imprisonment, when no crime are charged against such persons, as unconstitutional, and in direct violation of the rights of persons secured by the Constitution of the United States; and also adverse to the treaties of other countries, and with foreign nations; and that the police acts of any state of this Union, authorizing such seizure and imprisonment, are opposed to the constitutional and exclusive power of Congress to regulate commerce between the States. Mr. Rayner presented a report from the minority of the Committee, asking that the Committee be discharged from the consideration of the whole subject, and recommending the rejection of the resolutions of the majority. The usual number of both reports were ordered printed.

In Senate, on Tuesday, the day was spent in discussion of the Oregon Bill, Mr. Woodbury, Mr. Huntington and Mr. Phelps being the speakers. The bill will probably pass the Senate.

In the House, the morning hour was spent in a debate on the bill to remit Gen. Jackson's fine. Mr. Botts occupied the whole time, against the bill. The report of the Committee of Ways and Means, adverse to the Exchequer plan, was the subject for the rest of the session, Mr. Cushing having the floor.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

The bill to regulate the State printing has been finally passed by both branches of the Legislature, and signed by the Governor. It cuts down prices about two-thirds, but does not change the manner of electing printers. Under it Messrs. McKinlay & Hasselt have been elected printers of the English Journal, Messrs. Hafner & Bigler of the German Journal, and J. H. Stack of Bills.

On Saturday an act to protect contractors and laborers, passed the House early in the morning, and came into the Senate, where, after a very animated debate, it also passed, and was sent to the Governor. The object of this bill is to protect contractors and laborers on the Reading and Philadelphia Railroad against an assignment which that Company are to make on Monday, to prefer certain of the holders of its loans and stocks. The bill was signed by the Governor, and reached Philadelphia on Sunday night, just in time to stay the proceedings.

On Monday Mr. Penniman, from a select committee on the subject, reported a bill to divide the State into congressional Districts, which was laid on the table, ordered to be printed, and made the order for Wednesday, as follows:

1st District—Southwark, Moyamensing, Passyunk, Kingsessing, Blockley, West Philadelphia and Cedar Ward.

2d—City of Philadelphia, except Cedar and Upper Delaware Wards.

3d—Upper Delaware Ward, Northern Liberties and Kensington.

4th—The remainder of Philadelphia not included in the above.

5th—Chester and Delaware.

6th—Montgomery and Lehigh.

7th—Berks and Northampton.

8th—Berks.

9th—Dauphin, Lebanon, and townships of West Cocalico, Mount Joy, Elizabeth, Warwick and Rapho, in Lancaster county.

10th—The balance of Lancaster county.

11th—Luzerne, Wyoming, Monroe, Pike and Wayne.

12th—Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga and Potter.

13th—Lycoming, Columbia and Schuylkill.

14th—Northumberland, Union, Mifflin & Juniata.

15th—Perry, Cumberland and Franklin.

16th—York and Adams.

17th—Washington, Bedford and Somerset.

18th—Cambria, Indiana, Clearfield, centre and Clinton.

19th—Westmoreland and Fayette.

20th—Greene and Washington.

21st—Allegheny.

22d—Beaver, Butler and Mercer.

23d—Armstrong, Clarion, Venango, Jefferson, Warren and M'Keen.

24th—Crawford and Erie.

On Wednesday of last week a bill to repeal the law establishing the Philadelphia Court of General Sessions, and to confer its duties upon the Court of Common Pleas, passed the House by an extraordinary vote—91 to 4. The bill so passed by the House, abolishes the Court from and after the first day of March next, and vests all its powers in the Court of Common Pleas, (except the appointment of police,) and authorizes the Governor to appoint an additional Associate Law Judge to the Court of Common Pleas, and power is given the Judges of said Court to sit separately when the business is such as to require it. This bill has been received in the Senate and referred and reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, with some amendments.

In the House, on Monday, Mr. Hinchman offered a resolution instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the expediency of bringing in a bill to provide for and regulate the assignments of incorporated companies and individuals; in such manner, however, as shall secure to all the creditors thereof a *pro rata* distribution of their effects; which was adopted.

Mr. Kugler offered a resolution instructing the same committee to report a bill removing the injunction on the Pennsylvania Bank; which was adopted. Mr. Hiltshe offered a resolution, and a bill to provide, investigate the management and expenses of the Columbia railroad, past and present; which was adopted.

Mr. Whitman introduced a bill to extend the time for completing the West Philadelphia railroad three years.

A bill erecting a new county out of parts of Northampton and Monroe, to be called "Carbon," passed first reading.

In Senate, Mr. Heally (corporations,) reported as committed, House bill to revive the charter of the Asbury Benedical Society of Philadelphia.

Mr. Kline (corporations,) reported as committed, House bill to incorporate the town of Millersburg, Centre county, into a borough.

Mr. Hill introduced a bill to change the number of Canal Commissioners, and to reduce the expenses thereof.

Mr. Penniman introduced a bill graduating the prices of wholesale dealers in Philadelphia.

Mr. Bigler introduced a bill relative to taxes on inheritance.

Mr. Cochran introduced a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Commonwealth to inform the Senate how many pardons have been granted by the Executive since 1840—the crimes for which the criminals were charged; the county in which the crime was committed, and how many were granted before trial. Laid on the table.

The following offered by Mr. Penniman was adopted.

Resolved, That the clerk of the Court of General Sessions, and the inspector of the Philadelphia County Prison, be requested to communicate to the Senate as soon as practicable, a separate statement of the names of all persons in the Lancaster Penitentiary, and in the County prison, since the 25th February, 1840, together with the crimes for which each person stands charged, and in all cases where bail has been taken and the names of the persons entering such securities.

Dr. Seth Salisbury, of Bradford County, has been elected Librarian for the ensuing year.

The bill from the House of Representatives, providing for the cancellation of the relief notes in the Treasury, as directed by the act of 24th of June, 1842, without any reference to the act of 27th July, following, is still pending in the Senate. The House have passed through Committee of the Whole a bill providing for an Inspector of Leather in Philadelphia.

On Tuesday a joint resolution was submitted to the House by Mr. Hancock, directing the issue of a writ of quo warranto, to test the eligibility of Wm. A. Porter, as Sheriff of Philadelphia. It was read, and laid on the table. The Bill authorising Spring Garden to introduce the waters of the Schuylkill, was referred to the members of the City and County of Philadelphia, a proposition having been made to extend the same privilege to Kensington and the Northern Liberties. The Congressional District Bill reported by Mr. Elwell (not the one above) was lost.

In the Senate, Mr. Gibbons, from the committee to whom that subject was referred, reported adverse to the instruction given for to Congress, asking them to repeal the Bankrupt Law.

J. B. Bratton was chosen printer of the English Journal, Boat & Hummell of the German, and J. H. Dunnock of Bills. The House proposition, relative to cancelling relief notes was debated but not decided.

SANDS' SARSAPARILLA.—The extraordinary success with which this preparation meets, is a proof of its excellence. The fame of it is daily extending itself in a large circle, and cases of the most remarkable cures produced by its use, are constantly coming to our knowledge. Unsolicited testimonials in its favor, from the highest and most reliable sources, are pouring in upon the proprietors and vendors of this excellent specific.

When such authorities as the Rev. John Power, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Dubois, and Alderman Purdy of New York, give their sanction to a medicine, it is time for all doubt to vanish from the public mind. Very few, however, we are happy to say, are incredulous to the magic efficacy of the Messrs. Sands' Sarsaparilla—certainly none who have ever used it, speak otherwise than favorably of it.—*Boston Times.*

For certificates of cures and various testimonials, see advertisements in different daily papers.

Prepared and sold by A. B. Sands & Co., Druggists and Chemists, No. 273 Broadway, N. Y. Sold in Philadelphia by S. P. Thompson, corner 5th and Spruce sts.; by Dr. D. Jayne, 20 South 3d st., and F. Kist & Co., corner Second and Callowhill sts. Price, $1 per bottle; 6 bottles for $5.

CHANCRE OF WEAKNESS, AND CAPUCHIN CRESS AND CHUBBS.—It should be remembered that a cough is always an evidence that some impurity is lodged in the lungs, which, if not speedily removed will so irritate those delicate organs as to produce inflammation of the lungs; a disease which we all know is the high road to consumption.

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills are one of the very best medicines in the world for carrying off a cold; because they purge from the body those morbid humors which are the cause of coughs, consumption, difficulty of breathing, sore throat and inflamed eyes, sore throat, rheumatic pains in various parts of the body, and many other dangerous complaints. Three or four of mild Indian Vegetable Pills taken at night on going to bed, will in all cases give relief; and if the medicine be repeated a few times, the blood will be completely purified, the digestion will be improved, and the body will be restored to even sounder health than it was before.

Beware of Counterfeits. The public are respectfully informed, that medicine purporting to be Indian Pills made by one V. O. Fales, are not the genuine Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills; and that all who will genuine, are provided with a certificate of agency, signed by William Wright, Vice Pres. of N. A. Coll. of Health.

Office devoted exclusively to the sale of the medicine, wholesale and retail, number 169, RACE STREET, PHILADA., No. 386, Greenwich Street, New York, and No. 196, Tremont Street, Boston. Also, for sale by Mr. Isaiah P. Cook, No. 54 Baltimore street, Baltimore.

☞ *Remember, none are genuine except Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills.*

☞ It is a fact that certain portions of this globe so well as belonging forward to the greatest perfection particular production of the Arts and Sciences, or Agriculture. England, France, Italy, Germany, China and the United States, each excels the other in different attainments. The contrast is also very striking to the observer in the difference of the climate of the United States. The north part of it for grazing, manufactures, &c.; the south, the cultivation of the soil; the Middle States also have their various productions, in some of which they exceed. Delaware, for instance, supplies the north with Peaches, while in the vicinity of Philadelphia, or Camden, New Jersey, the peach trees are reared in the Nursery; at the New York Nurseries, the pear tree is the most cultivated, while at the old established Nurseries at Burlington, New Jersey, cultivate the apple tree to the greatest extent and perfection. Hence the reason why one district excels another in its productions. Attention is more particularly turned to the business undertaken.

DELAWARE.

The Markets.

Sales of Stocks.

By the Philadelphia Board of Brokers, for the week ending Thursday.

		Price sold for.
195 shares Phil. Wil. & Balt. R. R.		7a7½
62 do. Mechanics Bank.		11½a11¾
20 do. Mine-Hill R. R.		52
23 do. Commercial Bank.		31½
23 do. North America Bank.		200
20 do. Camden & Amboy R. R.		60
18 do. Schuylkill Bank.		30½ off 30
15 do. Schuylkill Navi. Co.		23
5 do. Union Bank, Tenn.		29½
5 do. Pennsylvania Bank.		75
$6000 Wilmington R. R. 6's, 1855.		56a57
$799 60 Lehigh Mortgage Loan.		95a96
$1000 U. States Bank Notes.		91a92
$1000 Camden & Amboy R. R. 6's.		71
$3000 State 5's, 1864.	s 5 days f	60½
$4300 State 5's, 1868. C and P.		60
$1000 Kentucky Bonds.		63
$300 Wilmington R. R. 6's, 1868.		55
$3000 State 5's, 1854. C and P.		60
$2000 Penn Bonds, 5's.		62
$600 City 5's, 1866.		90
$1760 Wilmington 6's, 1856.		56

Retail Prices in Market.

Beef, best, per lb.	8a10	Fowls, killed.	31a62½
——middling.	6a 6	——Live.	31a50
——ordinary.	5a 6	Pigeons, wild.	12½a25
——Dried.	8a10	——Tame.	25a50
Pork in hog.	4a 4½	Pheasants, pair.	37a50
——Cut.	5a 6	Quails, pair.	25a50
Hams, cured.	6a10	Salmon, fresh, lb.	12½a25
——Smoked.	6a 7	——Dry.	18a18½
——Shoulders.	4a 5	——Pickled.	10a12½
——Jowls.	3a 4	Cod, fresh.	6a 8
Pigs, whole.	50a81	——Pickled	3a 4
——Feet, set.	10a12	Shad.	6a 8
Tongue, Beef's.	25a50	Rock, string.	25a31
——Buffalo.	50a62	Perch, per string.	12a50
——Sheep, dos.	25a50	Flour, Wheat $ cwt.	70a75
Sausage, Jersey, lb.	6a 7	——Rye.	56a62½
——Butchers.	6a 7	Meal, Indian, ½ pk.	25a31
——Dried.	10a12	Buckwheat qr. cwt.	62a66
Lard, Jersey.	3a10	Potatoes, basket.	25a31
——Northern.	6a 7	——Half peck.	12½a15
Butter, fresh.	15a18½	——Sweet, per lb.	2a 3
——Roll.	12a12½	Apples, baskets.	75a81
——Firkin.	11a12	——Half peck.	12½a15
Cheese, N. I.	8a10	——Dried qr pk.	18a20
——Jersey.	6a 7	Dried Peaches.	30a40
——Cottage, qt.	6a 8	——Plums.	25a31
——Sage, lb.	5a 6½	——Cherries, qr.	6a 7
Mutton.	4a 5	——Plums.	11a12
——Lamb.	5a 6	Beans, white.	75a81
Venison.	4a10	——Lima.	10a12½
Veal.	4a 7	Hominy.	3a 4
Pineapple.	5a 6	Cranberries quart.	12½a15
Blood Pudding.	6a 7	Chestnuts.	10a12
Rabbit, grey, each.	6a12½	Shellbarks.	3a 4
——White.	12a50	Small Nuts.	2a 3
Opossum.	15a30	Walnuts qr. peck.	4a 5
Terrapins half doz.	62a87½	Persimmons.	3a 4
Oysters per 100.	25a37½	Pumpkins.	3a 4
Turkeys, wild.	75a87	Squashes.	2a 3
——Tame.	50a81½	Beets, bunch.	2a 3
Geese, wild.	75a87	Carrots, do.	2a 3
——Tame.	40a75	Cabbages, do.	3a 4
		Onions, sage.	4a 8

The market on the last market day was by far the most crowded one that we have noticed since the hard days. This may be accounted for in the fact that the weather has been remarkably fine, and the roads we have generally good. The excess of supply on Saturday of course made the market dull for sellers, and prices rather lower than they had previously been. Pork, Butter, Lard and Poultry were the articles that fell off most, though we believe little was carried home or left over. All descriptions of meat are plenty and of good quality. Apples are more plenty, better, and cheaper now that they were during the fall and beginning of winter.—*Public Ledger.*

Cattle Markets.

Philadelphia, Jan. 21.—The offering comprised 380 Beeves, including 60 Virgins; 207 Cows and Calves; 500 Swine, of which 275 were Corn, and 300 Shoats.

Beef cattle continued in fair request, and 325 sold, including 100 for New York, at $4a5.25 per 100 lbs. as in quality. Cows and Calves sold at $26a$[illegible] for dry Cows, $10 a $30 for Springers, and $30 a $50 each for Milch Cows. Swine—Of the offering 275 were from Ohio, chiefly received by the Pittsburgh and Ohio Railway. The sales reached 400 at from $3 to $4 per 100 lbs. as in quality. Sheep were taken at $1a$3 each.

New York, Jan. 20.—At market, 800 beef cattle, 175 from Penna. 30 Cows and Calves, and 700 Sheep and Lambs. Prices—Beef cattle have improved full 50 cts per cwt. on the prices current a week ago, selling at from $3.50 to $5.50, good to prime $5.75 to $6.50. Market firm, and 300 unsold. Cows and Calves—Sales at $20a$35, at which a decline of $5 on the extreme rate of prices. Sheep and Lambs—Sales of 500 at $1.50a$4.50, as in quality. Swine—A lot of 110 from Penna. sold at $4.50a$5, which are the prices for the few live Hogs offering.

Baltimore, Jan. 21.—Cattle—About 670 head of Beef cattle were offered

Gems from the Poets.

THE MAID'S LAMENT.

BY WALTER S. LANDOR.

I loved him not; and yet, now he is gone,
I feel I am alone.
I checked him while he spoke; yet, could he speak,
Alas! I would not chide.
For someone else to love him more I sought,
And wrought all my thought
To tear myself and him. I now would give
My love could he but live
Who long I lived for one, and, when he found
Peace calm, in lady ground
He hid his face amid the circles of death!
I wrote for him my breath
Who wanted his for me! Her mine remains,
And this lies beneath horse
With stifling heat, heaving it up in sleep,
And waking me to weep
Tears that had ceased his soft heart: for years
Wept he no tender more!
"Merciful God!" such was his latest prayer,
"These may she never share!"
Quicker in his breast, his breast more cold
Than dawn in the wold,
Where children spell, adjacent the churchyard gate,
Letters that tell life's brief date.
Pray for him, gentle souls, when you go by,
And, oh! pray, too, for me!

Popular Lectures.

THE ATHENIAN INSTITUTE.

THE REV. DR. BETHUNE'S THIRD LECTURE.

(SUBMITTED EXPRESSLY FOR THIS PAPER.)

The Moral Opinions of Socrates, Plato and Pythagoras—With some Notice of their Lives and General Philosophy.

During the forty years in which the brilliant genius of Pericles directed the affairs of Athens, she derived unfeigned glory from the spoils of conquest, the beauties of art, and the intellectual delights of literature, poetry and philosophy. The population of Athens at that period was not great—the number of slaves being 400,000, while of the free citizens, only 21,000 were capable of bearing arms. Trades and manufactures were principally carried on by foreigners, licensed to reside in Attica—labor and trade being considered dishonorable by the Athenians, who at the same time honored employment in war. Painting, sculpture, architecture, poetry and philosophy flourished in a greater degree of perfection than in any country, while rhetoric and skill in debate were naturally and highly cultivated by the orators, who sought to direct or control the democratic will in public assemblies. Never, in any country, were there so many eminent men—poets, philosophers, orators, sculptors and painters, as graced Athens during the Age of Pericles. Still, the morality of the Athenians was low. Truth and virtue, it was true, were lauded on great occasions, but little practiced. Sophists taught orators to make the worse appear the better reason. The tragic drama alone stemmed the tide of popular corruption;—its style was pure, dignified and noble. In the midst of this corruption, Socrates alone shone as a clear star in the midst of the surrounding darkness—and he was a man whose character, morals, and opinions of philosophy must be approached with a reverence approaching to awe. His motive—the good of mankind—was so honest; his confidence in the divinity so strong; his knowledge of the Deity, and a future state of the immortality of the soul were so clear; while his best thoughts were for the forgiveness of his persecutors, and he died with a martyr's dignity that we could almost think him other than inspired by Heaven, as Plato hints, to instruct mankind. Socrates was born at Athens, 470, B. C., and was the son of the sculptor Sophroniscus. He exercised his father's profession at first, but soon gave himself up to study, with the object of improving mankind, and promoting philosophy. As a citizen he was exemplary, and bore arms several times in defence of his country.

None could have been freer from affectation. In dress he was plain, in living simple. Courteous in his manner, he offered insults to none, and when he received them, the only sentiment inspired in his mind, was compassion for those who returned him evil for good. When he saved the life of Alcibiades, by his courage in the field, he afterwards placed the crown on the brow of his youthful companion. He also saved Xenophon by his valor. As a reformer, he never advocated violent measures; and virtue he inculcated as the best good of every man in every day life. He never fawned degradation; and he began with an acknowledgment that all knowledge is comparative ignorance; while he conducted and closed his inquiries in the same humble spirit. He had no contempt for the common people, and conversed alike with the mechanic in his workshop, the soldier in his tent, and the traveller by the wayside. His death was sublime. With words of forgiveness to the weeping gaoler who handed him the fatal cup, he took it and drank of the contents as if he were drinking a health. He then walked the floor of the cell, conversing with his friends on philosophy, the gods and a future state. When he felt the torture of the poison creeping along his veins, he wrapped his mantle around him to conceal his agonies from his mourning friends—and calmly laid himself down, and slept in death. Socrates wrote nothing of his philosophy, yet his oral teaching, free from all sectarian restrictions, commanded strongly and the prospects brightened of most of the philosophers, and above all, with the charlatanism of the Sophists, who hated him. By his philosophy, Socrates understood the pursuit of virtue. We were indebted for his doctrines and opinions to his two disciples, Xenophon and Plato. The testimony of Plato was not so certain as we could wish; for from having afterwards adopted in part the Pythagorean philosophy, he became perhaps naturally anxious to bend his master's opinions to those of his own school. Socrates, even in his lifetime, saw the probability of this, when he exclaimed, "Yegods, how this young man makes me run on." Xenophon was a faithful Socratic, and the *Memorabilia* of Xenophon formed the most wonderful embodiment of ancient moral wisdom that had reached us. The slander against Socrates were written long after these eminent men, and the lecturer only noticed those, to give them to the winds. In his philosophy, he believed in a Supreme God, and the lecturer quoted passages wherein Socrates described him as the "Supreme God of the Universe." * * * * that he "preserved unfailing vigor," and that "our mortal sight could not reach his throne," &c. Socrates might have learned much on this point, it was said, from Anaxagoras; but it should be remembered that a belief in an original God was held by men in his earliest state.

Socrates directed the being of God from the foolish superstition that surrounded it; and it was evident that if he believed in Polytheism, he believed in the heathen gods as angels or agents of the Supreme God. He said—"see how thy mind governs thy body; in the same manner doth God govern the universe." Again—"the gods observe all our actions, and penetrate our thoughts, even the most secret; and they are present in our deliberations." In speaking of natural theology, he argued very much as Paley did. In speaking of laws, he said—"it is evident that the gods have ordained all these things," and he referred to the necessary punishment and even death of malefactors as necessary for the prevention of crime and promotion of morality. Providence was always a favorite theme: for he had a firm faith in the rule of Him, whom he emphatically termed "the Superintending God." He told Alcibiades to pray, not for such things as we ourselves thought good, but as the Divinity thought good for us." Whether Socrates believed that he was attended by a Demon or familiar Spirit, has caused much argument. Some have considered that this Demon meant Conscience; while others deemed it altogether fabulous; but it was certain that Socrates thought himself under Divine Guardianship. He believed firmly in the immortality of the soul, and a future existence, and he separated this future existence from the absurdities of common belief. He looked forward to a future state of rewards and punishments—that men who were good should be blessed forever—he considered that man's duties to himself, were continence and energy—to his neighbors, justice; and that the best worship of God was Virtue, or doing all the good in our power. Socrates had left us convincing testimony that the Divine existence was necessary to teach us the way of virtue that leads to happiness. In a dialogue with Alcibiades, he said—"it is altogether necessary to pray, till one shall teach you duties to God and men." Alcibiades asked:—"When will that time come, and who shall teach me?" To which Socrates replied: "He will do it, who watches over you."

Near the close of the same argument, Alcibiades observed:—"Let him come at once. I deliver myself up to him." Socrates said, "He not desire it. This Governor has a tender regard for you." Plato supposed to have gone further in the early books of his Republic, for he then said:—"A just man will be contented, contented, honored and have his eyes yet cool; and having outlived all manner of evil, will be crowned." The whole passage showed that this just man would be a Messenger from God. The learned lecturer observed that he did not for a moment regard the passage as a prophecy, but as a strange coincidence with the Sacred narrative concerning the Lord of Righteousness. There is a remarkable hymn by Bapalie, his pupil, beginning—

"And yet a prophet for
Unless great Socrates do are, &c., &c."

Such was a brief sketch of Socrates, and the lecturer said he wanted words to express his emotion and sentiments concerning him; and he would leave the great philosopher to the feelings of the audience. But we might all learn this lesson, namely—that the light he lighted to us, shone for us. The school of Socrates did not long survive him, except through Xenophon and a few others. The most eminent philosophy that arose out of it, was the Platonic.

Plato was born in Egina, 429 B. C. His true name was Aristocles; and he was called Plato, from the breadth of his shoulders. He was descended on his father's side from the family of Codrus, and on his mother's from that of Solon. It was related that when an infant, in Hymettus, bees clustered around his mouth, Aristotle to indicate the sweetness of his persuasive oratory. He gave himself early to the study of the arts, painting, music, poetry and geometry. Mathematical knowledge and skill were united in his vast and noble genius with enthusiasm for the sublime and beautiful. The lectures of Socrates were the foundations of his philosophy. After the death of his master, he went through Greece; also to Egypt, where he obtained much knowledge from the Egyptian priests and other philosophers and priests. He acquainted long with Dionysius the younger, king of Syracuse. And after being of essential service to that monarch, his love of justice drew upon him the most odious persecution.

At Athens, he founded a school, and gave lectures in a garden near a grove given to the city by one Academus—hence called the Academy—or the groves of the Academy. The beauty, sublimity, poetry and harmony of the style of Plato's compositions were largely and ably commented on by Dr. Bethune. Cicero said, "If I were to speak Greek, I would speak it in the diction of Plato," and he also called him the "Homer of Philosophy." He was particularly careful in recommending a study of mathematics to his pupils. His glowing style caused him to be admired by readers of a similar disposition—by those who were sanguine and enthusiastic rather than cool and analytical. There was no wisdom, in reading Plato, it was so impassioned to keep in sight that test of truth "demonstration," as in reading Plato. However we might admire poetry, we required demonstration in philosophy. An extract from the Quarterly Review was here read, and the lecturer argued that a mere sense of beauty was not a love of truth.

"Truth of itself is of sufficient worth,
Nor needs the dress of art to set it forth."

Truth was God's image—veiled, not in darkness, but in living light. In his worship we wanted no shadows, but the light of day—except, indeed, those shadows which God cast from his own works, to show his own majesty.

Plato passed eight years with Socrates, and was not thirty at his master's death. After attending to the Pythagorean partialities of Plato, the lecturer observed that while with Dionysus, he attempted to legislate and to promote rational liberty; but in both purposes he signally failed, chiefly because he was too impatient of present injustice to wait for sure reforms. He sunk entirely down to death, which came over him like sleep at a marriage feast.

Pythagoras was born at Samos, 577 B. C. He visited Egypt, where he was initiated into some of the mysteries by the priests; Chaldea, where he learnt much, and India, where he conversed with the most ancient teachers of medicine. During these travels, he became fully acquainted with the doctrine of the metempsychosis. He founded a school or society at Crotona, but it was rather like a philosophical, religious and political brotherhood; for he aimed at establishing a government, under the political supremacy of his sect. This sect was afterwards overthrown, and the philosophers obliged to fly for their lives; but not until they had extended their tenets over Magna Grecia, where they continued to flourish for many years. Pythagoras borrowed much of his philosophy probably from the ancestral colleges of Egypt. It was a fond idea of men of learning, to imagine that they were the best qualified to conduct a government; but in very truth, it was an error. A government of philosophers would soon be a government of the rich—for those who think and write do so for their living, and they would soon give themselves large advantages. An aristocracy of learning would be worse than an aristocracy of wealth or of blood. The best form of government was our own, where no one class possessed any political advantage over another. Nothing human was perfect; but although there might be some confusion in the process of fermentation, yet in long results our government would be found as near perfection as possible. "Mark that man who affects to doubt the success of our glorious experiment, for that man will be found a traitor in the hour of danger." The time and place of the death of Pythagoras are involved in some obscurity, but it is supposed that he died at Metapontum, about 497 B. C. It was difficult, the lecturer repeated—the difference between the esoteric or inner doctrines, known only to the initiated of the Pythagoreans, and the exoteric or outer, mere symbols, or only that which the philosophers deemed politic to be known to the people; and of this difficulty their ideas of fire afforded an example. But God was infinitely transcendent above all comparison, above his own created things, above spirits. They called Him "To En," or the perfect—"To Kalon," or the beautiful. They thought that there existed eternally in the divine mind, types of all things that were created—that God was a unity—but with matter, dual, or two, matter and spirit, and that there were four cardinal principles; but a multiplicity of principles and gods or agents followed, as things departed from their original unity. They then believed in the Demiurgus, Logos, divine agent, or soul of the universe—who formed the universe from the numbers or patterns of things; after which came gods over various departments of the universe. Then came heroes, divine or superhuman gods, employed to effect their will. Then the souls of men—then the souls of brutes, and from believing in a metempsychosis, or the passing of souls from one into brutes, or from brutes into men, the Pythagoreans abstained from animal food.

They also abstained from beans, because they believed that beans possessed some vivifying principle coincident with animal life—some divine intelligence—and one author says that Pythagoras believed them to have been produced from the same purified matter, from which, at the creation, man was formed. As a proof of the strength of this belief, it is related that at Crotona, a woman submitted to be butchered by a mob, rather than cross a bean-field to escape. Thus, they believed in one Supreme Being, from whom emanated:—

1. The Demiurgus or Logos.
2. The inferior gods.
3. The souls of men.
4. The souls of brutes.

All these emanated from the divine "monad."

Pythagoras used sounds as he did numbers. From him we got the "music of the spheres." He taught that virtue should be universal; and in his notions of things, he considered matter eternal, arguing that if nothing was, nothing could come. He taught a pure morality. In the metempsychosis of the Pythagoreans, their belief was coincident with a return of all souls or spirits to the parent divinity. But their notions of virtue were cold. Hence the superiority of the Christian's virtue—not so much in action as in motive. The morals of Pythagoras addressed the intellect—those of Christianity, the heart. There must be love to mingle with virtue. We saw it in Maternal Virtue watching over the babe. Talk to a mother of the fitness of things! She understands it not—for after all, the principle of love, and demonstration, is in her heart. That "beauty is the best policy," was a maxim that would suit those very well, who were kept in the right path only by a fear of punishment—but was such the honesty, the virtue, that sprang from a love of our neighbor? No. The patriot who died for his country, died not for some abstract idea, but for love of his country. It was love—the love which smiled on the child, even over his father's grave.

Pythagoreans and Platonists both talked of love—but their love was but another name for admiration of the good, the consistent, and the beautiful—the heart could not there in it. With them, it was the prerogative of the wise, and to carry out the principle, heaven opened to be made for philosophers. Plato had an esoteric and an exoteric system—hence it was difficult, at times, to understand him and his philosophy; and his warmest admirers down to this day, disputed about the sense which was to lead them through the labyrinthine maze. When we read Plato, we should remember that he wrote to myself the vulgar; and that when he wrote on the laws, he thought differently from when he wrote his "Republic." He taught that there was a Supreme Original Intelligence, without beginning or end. That out of matter, the Logos or Demiurgus made the world, at the supreme command, and called it "To Kalon" (the beautiful.) And he considered the evils that existed, as arising mainly connected with matter, in opposition to the good, which was derived from the divinity; but he taught also, that there was no little evil permitted as possible. The gods he supposed inferior divinities or agents, and that the Logos all-dreamed them. He also taught that there was a Divine Soul of the world.

The lecturer had been asked whether the doctrine of the Trinity was found in Plato. There certainly was a kind of Trinity in the writings of that philosopher, but nothing approaching to the Christian Trinity. First, there was a Supreme Intelligence, which may be called—God;" thereafter, the Demiurgus or Logos. Thirdly, the Soul of the Universe. The third person is greatly inferior to the other two. So that it may be called a Trinity, but not of equal unity. It may rather be termed three forms of existence.

A most remarkable feature of his system, was his doctrine of ideas. He held that ideas were actual, spiritual substances; that as a human soul was divine, that these paradigms or ideas were also divine; and that it was by a comparison with the paradigms or innate ideas in our own minds, that we knew a thing to be true. Thus we saw, or fancied we saw, a circle. Now, that, it was contended, was not the true circle, but the true circle was the paradigm in our own minds, by which we compared and judged it. Plato thus mixed this doctrine by shadows, supposing the things we fancied we saw, as the shadows, the true things being the innate paradigms in our minds, &c. In morals, his rule was—"we must be in conformity with the good." But he declared that wisdom was not for the vulgar. They must be kept in ignorance.

"In his Republic, he recommended the Government of a few—an oligarchy of the wise and the good. The people were not to have a voice. This had put an Oxford Professor in an ecstasy—this view of the people being at the mercy of an aristocracy and a priesthood! Plato regarded marriage as unnecessary, making all children the children of the State. Plato could not see the beautiful system of the God of the Bible. No man could be truly a Patriot, who did not fulfil the duties of home. There was one, and but one kind of man who deserved the name of a philosopher;—it was he who had lofty aspirations for the beautiful, the true and the good. The system of Plato, even in ruins, had furnished the quarry, from which a thousand philosophers had dug materials for the construction of doctrines and systems. Of most of these philosophers, he might say, as Socrates had said of him—"How this young man does make me run on." Let us search for true philosophy in that one book, leading to eternal life, the way marked by the footsteps of Him, who preached the Gospel, not to the wise alone, but also to the foolish!

It is hardly necessary to add, that the above admirable and learned lecture, was listened to with profound attention by a large, fashionable and intellectual audience.

The Humorist.

☞ "Daddy, daddy! who pays for the education of fish?" "Why nobody, you silly boy." "Do they git their teachin' for nothin,' dat?"

☞ "Don't get any teachin' nor education, you numbskull you." "Wall then the paper lies, dad." "How so?" "Cos they talks about the fishes rewein' in the sea in schools." "Go to bed! you pragmatistic varmint you." "Yethum!"

☞ A communication in the Charleston Courier, calling attention to a concert to be given in that city, makes one of this queer remark, namely one "can obtain admission by dropping a tear of sympathy in the shape of a *quarter of a dollar* at the door. A very pretty figure indeed and rather new.

☞ Quarrels in a love affair, or in matrimony, which should be a love affair, but is not always, are like water to fire—a slight sprinkling makes it burn the hotter; while a large affusion puts it out, leaving the heart full of cinders and ashes.

☞ "Lo, husband" you talk of my inconstancy *before* marriage; but have I not always been constant after marriage?" "Yes, my dear—and that's the worst of it; for if you would only be inconstant after marriage, I might get rid of you!"

☞ A man who had married a Jewess, shortly afterwards joined the temperance society, and ventured to kiss his wife from that day, because he considered himself prohibited by the pledge from meddling with *Ann Spe*.

☞ "You have got thin shoes," said Caroline's mamma to her daughter, "and they will wear out right off." "I got them to wear *out*, right off," said she, as she forced her arm under that of her beau and sauntered off.

☞ A well dressed young gentleman at a ball, in whisking about the room, ran his head against a young lady. He began to apologize. "Not a word, sir," cried she, "it is not hard enough to hurt my body."

☞ "Do you sing?" says the ten-pot to the kettle. "Yes, I can manage to get over a few bars." "Bah!" exclaimed the ten-pot. "Do you smoke?" "Not exactly, but our kitchen chimney does confoundedly."

☞ An officer in bottle, happening to low, a cannon ball passed over his head, and took off the head of a soldier who stood behind him; you see (said he) that a man never knows by poltroons.

☞ The adjutant of a volunteer corps, doubtful whether he had distributed muskets to all his men, cried out, "All you that are without arms, will please hold up your hands."

☞ "Do you believe in specific gravity?" as the mariner in the two sealed the traveller, when he dropped a cocoa nut upon his head by way of attracting his attention.

☞ There is a colored gentleman in Nova Scotia so black that he rubs off, and his shirt collar is so much scorned as if it had come in contact with an iron pot.

☞ "Matrimony" may be anagrammatized into "O! try a mate!" and "Husband" into "Ah! mad'st!" Good jokes for bachelors, but no fun to married men.

☞ A preacher discoursing on the present fashions, remarked, that there were more corset boards in the assembly before him than would *shingle a hen-roost*.

☞ It is with narrow minded people as it is with narrow necked bottles; the less they have in them, the more noise they make in pouring it out.

☞ The editor of the New York Sunday Mercury has seen a negro whose wool curled so tightly that it made him round shouldered.—*Pic.*

☞ "Did you ever see a wooden image walk?" said one joker to another. "No," was the answer, "but I have seen a rope walk."

☞ "*You're makin mischief der!*" as the negro at the top of a ladder said to a hog who was rubbing his sides at the bottom.

☞ "Astonishing cure for *consumption*," as the old lady said when she sprinkled snuff on the victuals of her boarders.

☞ An old lady in Bangor has drunk tea until the tea plant has begun to sprout out between her shoulders.

☞ It is hard work to look at some girls without winking—and it is hard work to go to sleep without sleeping.

☞ "I was turned out to *dye*," as the hatter's apprentice said, when he went up to dip the hats.

☞ The fall that is most likely to injure a person's brain is—to fall in love with a pretty maid.

☞ "You're a very true 'arted man," as the cockney girl said to the blacksmith.

From the Magazines

FROM THE LADY'S BOOK, FOR FEBRUARY.

TO MY MOTHER.

BY P. KENYON KILBOURN.

Dear mother! I bethink me here, with mingled smiles and tears,
Thine guardedst well my infancy, and watch'd my growing years,
And how thy voice of gentle love first led me up in prayer,
To the pure fount of bliss, and bade me quench my longings there.
And when exultingly I sought the phantom of renown,
And now, on all my vaunted schemes, the fickle goddess frown,
Oh, weary with the world's vain strife, in coldness and in care,
I turned me to my boyhood's home, and found a welcome there!
Though o'er the rock of church'd hopes my heart can tell of both grieved,
And some I trusted have betrayed, and others have deceived;
Yet, Mother! there hast still been true—thy love hath kept its flame
Unchanging and unchangeable, in weal and in the tame.
The grave hath hidden from mine eyes the beautiful of earth,
And years have mar'd the maiden's bloom, and hush'd the voice of mirth;
And hearts I deem'd as angels true, are now estranged and cold—
Alas! that with the hopes of years the spirit should grow old!
I mingle with the multitude—my way is with the crowd—
And gilded ones are gathered near—the powerful and the proud;
Yet, proud like incense on thy shrine, my thoughts shall ever be,
Though manhood's sternest lot is mine, and I am far from thee.
A spell is on me!—I am not as in the years gone by,
A purer and a better light is beaming from the sky;
Yet, though a sweet enchantment now hath passed on to another,
Oh! never will my heart forget I am a son and brother!

* "Science is sometimes destructive of poetry. Dr. S. G. Morton, of this city, whose collection of the heads of races is one of the most perfect in existence, possesses some human skulls of ancient Peruvians, so strangely deformed as to make it difficult to believe that the possessor could have maintained habitually the erect position. These skulls belong to a race more ancient than the nation conquered by the Spaniards. The learned anatomist has whose possession they have fallen formerly inherited their sovereign sympathies to be the result of a natural peculiarity of structure; but further investigation has convinced him that in them, as in the cloth-bound infants of our own territories, artificial compression has been employed to produce deformity of the head; and, strange as it may appear, there is some ground for believing that the degree of deformity was rendered proportionate to the social rank of the individual. If Dr. Morton is warranted in his present opinion on this subject, it is at least probable that the race in question is not extinct; for the Indians of the interior part of Peru still continue to flatten or change the form of the head by artificial compression during child hood. At all events, if still in existence, it is only as a most miserable and profoundly instructive relic of a once powerful and highly polished nation.

FROM GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE, FOR FEBRUARY.

THE FIRE-DOOMED.

A Tale of the "Old Dominion."

BY REYNELL COATES, M. D.

All nature is but art unknown to thee,
All chance, direction which thou canst not see.
Pope.

"The reign of superstition is over," say those who believe their own age to be the most enlightened in history—their own country the most civilized in the world—and their own city the most refined of cities.

"The schoolmaster is abroad!" and modern philosophy is shedding light, deep and more deeply, into the secrets of nature. Children guide the thunderbolt of Jove, and make a toy of the flash which "belies his own name by its speed." Mysterious vapors, through the long dreary tube to illuminate our dwellings—dive deep into the bowels of the earth, exhume its treasures, and explain its structure. We explore the caves of earthquakes and volcanoes—invade the regions of the infernal monarch.

"And pour in light on Pluto's dusky shades."

We measure our iron-ribbed steeds, urge them with fiery goads, whirl over mountain and valley with the speed of the winged-footed Mercury, and exalt—at the irritated fury of our exciting measures.

"We have annihilated our ancient foe, our rain we. We rain the sulphur star, and pursue our pastimes, or research above the clouds, amid heaven-bearing Atlas lies beneath our feet, and we look down on the dwelling of the gods. For us, the earth has no secrets. Beyond the Appalachian mountains, we can chase the monsters of the deep. Empires move vast that Rome look back on Thule from the regions of the setting sun. We plunge beneath the waves to plant our engines of destruction in the hulls of Neptune, and navies are driven like the oak before the lightning. All elements obey us; and things that shock the nerves of heroes, and made nations tremble, are now our willing slaves, to work our pleasure or increase our wealth.

Clothed in the glowing language of the Homeric age, such labors would have deified more mortals than could find foot-hold on the broad Olympus. But, alas!

"These are the days of *iron*—not *fable*."

The very names of those great benefactors of their race, by whom the power of man has been thus universally extended—names, like their holders, formed of tough, tough, old Saxon, Gothic or Teutonic elements—defy all syllabic laws. Their fame the historic muse may say—but she can never sing.

Yes—the poetry of superstition, at least, is gone. The modern woodsman hears no more the scream of the imprisoned Dryad, when the attrition of the fresh breeze, heard before the blast, makes the wild notes resound with their harsh crashing. The sportive Naiads no longer laugh in the music of the babbling brook. The lost of the Sylphs expired long, long ago, upon the strings of the Hollen harp; and not a river god remains, even in the inland ocean halls and water-curtained caves of this wide land of cataracts and torrents.

The poetry of superstition has indeed departed. But still we find mankind divided into two opposite and incompatible parties. Those who still worship mystery, worship her in humble prose; yet, even in the present day, the ravings of the Pythoness are repeated in the prayers of the believers in the gift of tongues, and her oracles are heard in the dreams of the magnetic prophets. The mantles of the Delphic priesthood have fallen on the shoulders of Irving and of Poinsett, and the spirits of Mahomed and Zoroaster survive in the persons of *Matthias and Joe Smith*.

But, on the other hand, the tendency of modern literature, accumulating fact on fact from the rich granary of natural science, and ever dwelling on the physical universe, perhaps, where mortals possible, transcendentalism, "means not, but blunders round a meaning"—is calculated to obtend the senses which perceive the spiritual. It leads us to deny the existence of all agency not cognizable by our feeble faculties, to sight, to touch, to hearing. It guides us to the gloomy region of materialism.

I am no advocate for superstition, whether surrounded by the gorgeous pageantry of the Egyptian mysteries, robed in the classic grace of Greece, or wrapped in the dark mantle of Scandinavian mythology, or tricked out with hat, coat and pantaloons, after the prime custom of our own enlightened age; but, that that destiny of man is regulated to a great extent by laws and influences beyond the reach of physical philosophy—that, notwithstanding our glorious privilege of free will, on which accountability depends, both individuals and races are but actors in some vast scheme of Providence, of which we see not the beginning nor the end—all this is clearly proved by the whole course of history, and by a thousand evidences daily challenging attention.

When man's spirit soars in epithalamic, and the beauty of Christianity sinks in the fire of martyrdom—when arrogant self-righteousness erects its Pharaoh-throne, and would reduce to its own arbitrary measure the intellectual offspring of an all-wise Creator—then infidelity springs up to counterpoise its influence. When a hypocritical pretence of atheistic principles becomes the fashion with a race or nation, then, in the wide spread misery following the destruction of all social bonds, man long to a higher power for confidence and support, and begins to be an opposite extreme, too frequently invoke the aid of human laws to bind the untameable spirit in the chains of a compulsory faith—thus planting a national bigotry upon the ashes of infidelity.

Yet, amid the jarring of opposing forces, the light of truth shines on. It may be dimmed for a moment by diffusion, but, with perpetually increasing power, it still illuminates a wide and wider field. Is it a physical cause that keeps awake this flame? Is it written in the laws that govern the organization of material man—this principle that induces us to laugh at the faggot and the stake—that leads on tender womanhood and feeble infancy to dare the terrors before which nature shrinks, for the mere maintenance of an opinion? No, no! The first law of our physical nature is *the preservation of life*. The first desire of life is the enjoyment of physical comfort. In this materialistic principle that causes us to sacrifice the one, and to disdain the other, there is something *supernatural*.

But men have died for false opinions; they have suffered misery and martyrdom for sentiments as strictly wrong—false gods, and faith irrational. Well! they have played their part on the great stage of human interests; but who shall judge their merits or their culpability? Can we determine, now, the motive of the evidence on which they acted, or judge how far their very organization had been modified to fit them for the sphere appointed them by Providence, among millions of disturbing and counteracting agencies—causes that agitate the nations, while humanity rolls on in its vast cycle, from the infancy of Eden to the purity of the millennial. They have been instruments in the hands of supernatural power, even while endowed with the perfection of free will. According to their acts, their motives, and their talents, they will be judged—but not by us.

Glance at the history of races, and you will find tribe after tribe annihilated or reduced to servitude, in order to make room for others of more vigorous energies. Read the history of the rise and progress of the frame of government and the constitutions of individuals, until barbaric strength breaks in to furnish fresh materials for reform, where the original soil of society has been exhausted by a fruitless husbandry. Such was the fate of Rome. At others, we see the overflow of a more polished stock, in the full blush of manhood, bearing down upon the weak though virtuous infancy of less favored races. Such is the course of the proud Anglo-Saxon, as he sweeps to destruction the sylvan nations of America. Where now are those strange monsters of Peru, whose bones lie scattered on the Alpine plains—disgusting relics of a populous state. *half human in their form*—the offspring of the noble past and heaven-directed vision? Long before the first of the Incas descended from his native luminary, that people was no more." And where are their successors, but by those Incas to the gentle worship of the day-star? Their temples are in ruins—their glory has departed. The skulls of their priests and monarchs adorn the cabinets of the learned in other lands, while their degenerate sons acknowledge the stern sway of bold, contending tribes, who seize by turns the banner of liberty, to flaunt it mockingly before the eyes of slaves.

We need not visit eastern climes to find enduring proofs that nations have their final dates prescribed by laws no human foresthought can evade—their youth, their manhood, their decay, their death! Nor Babylon, nor Balbec, Thebes nor Troy, can speak more eagly in their ruins the inevitable doom of power and greatness, than do the silent forests of our own or western world. The—broken columns and storm shattered temples stand half engulfed beneath the dust of ages, or the shifting desert sands, proud monuments upon the tombs of buried empires. But *here*—in the very monuments are buried!

Palmyra left Palmyra in the sands, and far outrivalled Egypt. Yet where are now her massive structures? The gnarled roots of the tall tropic trees are intertwined above her silar stones. The cactus and the palm are blooming on her palace tops. Her fanes are hidden in the mossy soil; and life—young life—runs riot over very memory. The traveller may wander through the wilderness of this "new country," and cross the crowded mart where thousands once were wont to congregate, nor dream that trace of human agency lies sleeping beneath the venerable woods. If you would seek the records of a fallen race, the very shadow of whose power oppresses us with awe, go track the jaguar's stealthy tread through tangled thickets where the light of day can scarcely penetrate, and follow the wolf to his lair in the deserted halls of state.

And yet amid this wreck of dynasties and institutions—those still recurring struggles between the sunshine of civilization and the night of barbarism—society advances in the grand career of improvement, and the approach, of vast such is not easy to literally true, though not in the intended sense.

When the blight of disappointment falls upon the greater era, the tiny cancer of life are chilled. The tender plant, transplant from its native paradise, to bloom amid the stones and storms of a more rigorous clime, wilts shrivered and exposed by the chill of the blast, feels not the foundation that surrounds it, but breathes its perfume, and displays its beauty gaily, and fearless of the wintry blast. But let the fire decline; let him on whom it beams for training and support be guilty of desertion and neglect, and in one night of unprotected loneliness, the fairest fall, the stem is withered, and the vast land is frozen. It lies a hopeless, lifeless wreck on the cold bosom of its parent earth. And such is woman in her loveliest form, when her young heart is wound away from the fond paradise of home, and she has entered on the chilly world, to share the mantle of a stranger when the wind bleeds, and the frost pinches. Life from within the bright flame of affection burns—she dies when it declines.

Not so stern manhood, with its stubborn frame. The tree may cast its leaves when cold assails it, but the root still lives. It is too deeply planted in the earth for storms to reach it there. Naught but the tornado or the earthquake can destroy its strong hold on existence; and another summer's sun may bid it bloom again. But though yet living, many a stately tree whose branches have been riven and its trough rent riot by the cold grasp of winter, stands forth for long, long years, a mangled monument of ruin piled in verdure—a thief on its root.

"And thus the heart will break, yet brokenly live on."

There are more lunatics from blighted affection among men—more deaths among the women.

The tall green waves above the grave of the young man of hope, speak—for years have passed since his troubled dream of life was ended; but the memory of early promise dwells long in the hearts of the survivors. A name still cherished as a sacred thing, adorns the dark surface of the sedgy pool beneath the waving willows; and her wild, free laughter, mingling with the noisy babble of the cascade, resounded through the rocky glen in mockery. When, from the bright green, varied copse, the thrush poured fourth its liquid tones, to him it seemed her song of hope that swelled so clear and high, luring him onward toward a happy future life. When the chill nights of autumn were musical with the sweet voices of the insect tribes, chanting over their mournful dirge above the dying leaves, her influence was there, calming the troubled memory of the past.

"Telling how all things fair must pass away."

And was this love, or madness? There are some who dare to sneer at young romance, and deem such thoughts the offspring of a feeble mind. Ante the heartless falsehood! Such thoughts are full of virtue and ennobling excellence. What though, in after years, this world be found one wide-spread waste of blighted feelings, where the few gems of real worth lie smothered in the soil of avarice, pride, and custom! What though wealth and fashion, petty power, and low ambition, weigh genius with guinea, measure refinement with a tailor's wand, or estimate the noblest work of God" by the mere gilding of the image—worshipping gew-gaw garters, and glittering stars, framed to "throw cruel sunshine on a fool!" What though we struggle vainly with the current, and find ourselves compelled by force to follow what we loathe, like a proud steed chafing and with mean hacks upon the turning wheel, and there condemned to toil for life in the same beaten circle, still cheated with the semblance of progression? Who that maintains a soul unchilled by the frost from the stormy scenes of middle life or the sad loneliness of age upon the days when they could share such feelings, and gravely, calmly teach the cold philosophy in which they are despised? Reader! if thou art young, cherish that holy madness; cherish and warm it in thy heart of hearts; and when experience, in after days, shall prove, as it must prove, thy bright conception but a sunny dream, still cherish its memory as thy richest treasure. Have that clear vision of the future which sometimes opends ineffable beauty upon the dying, life has no other dream so full of heaven.

But man, half animal in this state of existence, cannot be long content with the ideal. Whatever he conceives of excellence or beauty, he seeks to *realize* and to *possess*. Charles fled from the solitude of woods and streams to the far deeper loneliness of cities. He mingled with the revelers at ball or rout. Who never the young and lovely congregated most, there nightly was he found. Even at church, his thoughts would wander from their proper sphere, and bend themselves to earth. It was not that the scene was unfit for prayer, or that he felt delight in gayety. His soul still mounted with the organ's swell, and the song of mirth jarred painfully upon an ear attuned to loftier feelings; but he sought aloud the throng the embelled likeness of his airy love.

Many a fair cheek and soft expressive eye, that melled in the warmth of its own beams, arrested his attention; but there he found not the high principle that breaks the storm with firm enduring constancy. The brain all fickleness while the summer skys is clear and glowing, but helpless when misfortune lowers, or withered by the first unguarded word, was not for him. Many a faultless beauty met his gaze, on whom unmitigated hour no shade of care or thought had ever passed; yet calmly smiling, like a cloudless moon, unmoved by all the ills of life—content with any change for weal or wo; but he knew himself a mortal, and wished not for angelic partnership. In all, some and other compounded the nobler gifts of woman, and quenched the torch just lighting at the altar. Wit was linked with temper; wealth lengthened with selfishness, thwarted the course of charity, damming the current while it swelled the spring; and fashion usurped the soul, as it consecrate the body, until all traces of God's high image was lost in the deformity of art. He grew sick with longing, and misanthropic with disappointment.

But, among the multitude of his acquaintance, there were two young girls, inseparable companions, though of widely different character. With them he had spent many happy hours. The elder was all cheerfulness and emotion; and with her it was impossible to beguile the time, when mixed with the crowd of more exacting intimates. This mild and fair haired blonde was ever ready with a smile of welcome for those she styled her friends, and asked no effort for her entertainment—conscious of she knew them, and accepting if they preferred to please themselves. Too indolent to share her mind with knowledge, and yet possessing an unusual share of the light currency of conversation, well fitted to fill up the intervals of graver thought, she never ventured to assume the lead, nor ever flagged in following the discussion. Her parlor was the hour-glass of a lounger. The younger was a fairy figure—the lightest of brunettes—jet-like in form and movement, with long locks of glossy jet, and an eye full, large, and changeful as an April morn. It was not black, but of that dark gray hue that marks the mingling of genius and feeling. Beneath the lofty lashes that swept her cheek and rose again whenever she spoke, dwelt in her more serious moods, there slept a spirit of fire, which, when roused, was of lofty and of the impassioned, of vast such is not easy to literally true, though not in the intended sense.

Gifted even to excess, with a mind of the highest order, the very essence of life was chilled. The tender plant, transplant from its native paradise, to bloom amid the stones and storms of a more rigorous clime, wilts shrivered and exposed by the chill of the blast, feels not the foundation that surrounds it, but breathes its perfume, and displays its beauty gaily, and fearless of the wintry blast. But let the fire decline; let him on whom it beams for training and support be guilty of desertion and neglect, and in one night of unprotected loneliness, the fairest fall, the stem is withered, and the vast land is frozen. It lies a hopeless, lifeless wreck on the cold bosom of its parent earth. And such is woman in her loveliest form, when her young heart is wound away from the fond paradise of home, and she has entered on the chilly world, to share the mantle of a stranger when the wind bleeds, and the frost pinches. Life from within the bright flame of affection burns—she dies when it declines.

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